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CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

OF THE

WEST INDIES.

VOL. III.

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Roland Hussey

Chronological History

OF THE

West Indies.

BY
CAPTAIN THOMAS SOUTHEY,
COMMANDER, ROYAL NAVY.

IN THREE VOLUMES.
VOL. III.

LONDON:
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A
CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY
OF THE
WEST INDIES.

1784.

In January, the island of Dominica was restored to the English. Some weeks before the restoration of it, an English regiment arrived from St. Lucia, at Roseau, to take possession of the island, which Du Beaupe, the French governor, refused to deliver up, and ordered the British troops to depart. This their commander refused to do; and he was at last permitted to land at Point Michael, to wait until the French governor had further instructions. Upon this Point the English fortified themselves; and in answer to orders from Beaupe, to haul down the English colours, their commander replied, that the country was his master's, whose flag he would defend to the last moment.

On the morning of the evacuation, the English entered the town amidst rejoicing multitudes. Between one and two o'clock, the artillery took possession of the principal fort, marching in as the French marched out, who immediately embarked in boats that were waiting for them. The standard of England was hoisted, and the new governor, John Ord, Esq. landed under a salute from the vessel and fort, amidst shouts of joy and congratulation.

During the government of Duchilleau, sixty out of every hundred head of cattle were destroyed. He established an ordinance, that every English planter should send a beast in his turn to the military hospital; and if, from bad weather, and the distance, the cattle were not there in time, a party of soldiers were sent out to kill the first beast that fell in their way. Many of the inhabitants' milch

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Atwood's History of Dominica, pp. 160, 161. 164. 167, 168.

cows were thus destroyed; for which they were, after a long interval, paid as ordinary beasts. The French destroyed all the fortifications they had built; and, contrary to the eighth article of the treaty of peace, blew up several that were there before they took the island.

No trade had been permitted, except to the island of St. Eustatia; and no less than thirty sugar plantations were abandoned by the proprietors.

Mr. Joshua Steele, of Barbadoes, succeeded in obtaining the labour of his Negroes thus:—He gave premiums to any twenty-five Negroes who would undertake to "hole for canes" an acre per day, at about 96½ holes for each Negro to the acre. All were glad to undertake it, at about three-halfpence sterling a day, and the system of task-work, or the voluntary system, became the general practice of the estate.

France entered into a convention with Sweden, in virtue of which the French were to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the natives in the city and port of Gottenburg, being permitted to build and establish warehouses, for the storing of all manner of goods imported, either from France or America, in the bottoms of either nation, without their being subject to any duties or impositions whatever; with the farther liberty to the merchants or proprietors, to export all such goods at pleasure, either in French or Swedish bottoms, and upon the same free terms. In return for the advantages expected from these favourable stipulations, France ceded to Sweden, in perpetuity, the full propriety and sovereignty of the island of St. Bartholemew, in the West Indies. The King of Sweden, in order to convert this island to the best account, declared it a free port.

A Liverpool merchant, of the name of Dawson, contracted with the Spanish government to deliver from 3000 to 4000 slaves at Trinidad, La Guira, and the Havaña, at 150 dollars a head. There was no stipulated proportion of males, females, or children.

Upon the 11th of March, some gentlemen in London, interested in the West India islands which had been taken by the French, voted an address of thanks and a piece of plate to the Marquis de Bouille, as a public testimony of their "veneration and esteem," for the "humanity, justice, and generosity so exemplarily displayed by him, in his several conquests and chief command" of the conquered islands.

The exports from Essequibo and Demerary employed twenty-four ships, and consisted of 3980 hhds. of sugar, 703 tierces and 28,078 bags of coffee, and 1883 bales of cotton.

Atwood's History of Dominica, p. 167. Colquhoun's British Empire, p. 361.
Clarkson's Thoughts on Emancipation, 1823.
Annual Register, 1784, p. 183. — 1786, p. 28.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Part VI. Spain.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, Appendix.

The French government, by a decree of the 30th of August, 1784, expressly forbade any payment to be made for such things as were permitted to be imported from foreign markets, except in syrups, taffia (rum), and commodities brought from France. Spain alone granted to its colonies the power of carrying all their productions, excepting cacao, to foreign markets.

"Civil, social, and religious order was established in Grenada. Stipends were granted, by an act of the Assembly, to five clergymen of the Church of England, of £330 currency, and £60 for house-rent. One of the clergymen was for the town and its environs, in the parish of St. George — three to do duty, by rotation, in the five out parishes, and one at Cariacow. The glebe lands which had belonged to the Roman Catholic priests, while their religion constituted a part of the government, became the property of the crown, and were granted by his Majesty to the legislature of the island, for the better support of the Protestant churches; deducting an allowance for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic priests, who were still paid," for the pastoral care of the Papists.

A perpetual tax, of eighteen-pence currency per head, was laid upon all slaves in Grenada, to support the clergy.

The number of slaves in Barbadoes, as given in on oath by Mr. Agent Brathwaite, was 61,808.

The number of slaves imported into the Grenades was 1688.

In Grenada, an act was passed, October 18th, 1784, "for regulating the fees of the clerk of the market, and authorising him to take eighteen pence for every slave he shall flog, whether it be ordered by the magistrate or owner."

The inhabitants voted £20,000 to join the Lagoon to the harbour of St. George's.

On the 29th of June, 150 houses, in the most opulent part of Port-au-Prince, St. Domingo, were destroyed by fire, and the royal magazine reduced to ashes. The damage was estimated at 30,000,000 of francs.

On the three first days in August the island suffered severely from a storm.

Jamaica suffered from a hurricane. Upon the night of July the 30th, every vessel in the harbour, except four, was either sunk, dismasted, or driven on shore, and numerous lives lost; the barracks at Up Park Camp were blown down, and five soldiers killed; the workhouse was destroyed, and ten of its inmates killed or wounded. The storm began at half-past eight P.M., and continued till past eleven P.M. Two severe shocks of an earthquake were felt.

Depon's South America, vol. ii. p. 41. Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 58.
Parliamentary Papers, 1789, Campbell's Evidence.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.
Parliamentary Papers, 1790, Lieutenant H. H. Dalrymple's Evidence.
Westminster Magazine, 1784, pp. 499. 501. 555, 556.

His Majesty's ship Janus, Commodore Pakenham, rode out the storm.

The legislature of the Bahama islands, in the twenty-second section of an act passed this year, enacted, "That the oath of Negroes, Mulattoes, Mustees, or Indians, shall not be good or valid in law against any white person, excepting in matters of debt; and then any free Negro, Mulatto, Mustee, or Indian Christian, shall be allowed to prove her or his account, and sue for the same, in any court in these islands, where the same shall be cognizable."

Thus these people are allowed to be witnesses, and are to be believed *only when they swear for their own advantage.* And the rule of exclusion is extended from slaves to the testimony of free persons, if they happen to be Negroes or Mulattoes! except in respect of freed Negroes, Mulattoes, Mustees, and Indians. Then by the same act, "the evidence of a slave against them shall be good and valid to all intents and purposes."

Thus the credibility of evidence is made to depend on the colour of the defendant against whom it is given, and white criminals must escape, when Blacks and Mulattoes would be hanged!

It further states — "Whereas many heinous and grievous crimes, such as murder, poisoning, burglaries, robberies, rapes, burning and breaking open houses, and other felonies, are many times committed by Negro, Mulatto, Mustee, or Indian slaves, or are many times maliciously attempted by them to be committed; in which, though by divers accidents they are prevented, yet are their crimes nevertheless heinous, and therefore deserve punishment; and whereas Negro, Mulatto, Mustee, and Indian slaves do many times steal, wilfully maim, kill and destroy horses, cattle, sheep, or other things of the value of six shillings, or above, or are accessary to the committing of such crimes as are before mentioned, which several offenders, for danger of escape, ought not to be long imprisoned, and deserve not, for *the baseness* of their condition, to be tried by the established laws of England, nor is execution to be delayed in case of their committing such horrid crimes," therefore, the justices are commanded "to cause immediate execution to be done."

"The average maintenance of a slave, for food and cloathing, in health and sickness, cannot be estimated at less than four pounds sterling per annum."

Part of an estate called Crab Hole, under Hackleton's Cliff, Barbadoes, slipped in the direction from north to south, several hundred yards. The ground was intersected by fissures, and in places swelled into tumours. Most of the buildings upon Mr. Phillip's plantations were thrown down, or almost ingulphed. A large piece of edoes occupied the site of the house, and brought with it

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 180. 280.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Council and Assembly of Antigua.
Annual Register, p. 6, Occurrences.

a long slip of the road, as entire as if nothing had happened. The face of the country was so changed, that the inhabitants were unable to determine where many familiar objects had stood before.

An act of the Bahamas, this year, enacted, "That when any slave shall suffer death," inquiry shall be made "what treatment such slave had received from his or her owner;" and if it shall appear "that the owner of such slave *had inhumanly used him or her, and that necessity or cruel usage might have compelled such slave to run away, or to the commission of the offence for which he or she shall have suffered*, the owner shall not be entitled to, or receive, any allowance for such slave." Thus it appears the slave was to be executed first, and the necessity that led to his crime be inquired into afterwards.

"Who can conscientiously say of assemblies by which such opprobious laws have been made, that they are fit to be trusted with the sacred functions of legislation? Parliament might be embarrassed with the details of a slave code; but the delegation of the work to such bodies as the colonial assemblies, was an expedient in the last degree unjust. The very worst of legislators for a community of slaves, is a popular assembly composed of and elected by their masters: and in abandoning them entirely to such lawgivers, England has stood alone among the colonizing powers."

By an act passed this year in Antigua, a jury of six white inhabitants were ordered for the trial of capital offences. This was probably the first institution of the kind in the West Indies, and its operation was limited to three years. Previous to this, the justices decided in all cases, both on the law and fact; and, without the intervention of any other authority, awarded execution, which was done in obedience to their warrant by the marshal (sheriff) or his officers.

The evidence of one slave against another was ordered to be admitted, but not against a free person.

In some colonies, on the trial of capital charges, the justices are now (1823) required to associate with themselves three or more house-keepers, who, jointly with them, decide questions of law, as well as of fact, and have an equal authority with them in adjusting the punishment, when of a discretionary kind: a majority of votes being sufficient for either purpose, provided one justice of peace be concurrent.

1785.

The number of Negroes in Barbadoes, according to the return upon oath of Mr. Agent Brathwaite, was 62,775.

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 316. 327. 330.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.

The number of Slaves in the Grenades was 23,926, of whom 3,012 were imported this year.

Captain Gardner was appointed commander-in-chief on the Jamaica station, the 8th of September, 1785; hoisted his broad pendant on board the Europa, fifty guns, and kept the command three years.

On the 9th of November, 1785, the conseil souverain of Martinico issued an arrêt concerning the capture of runaway slaves, and the declaration of Negroes killed.

"When slaves are killed as runaways, by detachments duly authorized, declaration to be made at the greffe of the sénechaussée, by those who killed them, or were at the head of the detachment; and the orders given to that effect to be there deposited, copies of which will be joined to the requêtes presented for payment of the slaves so killed."

The gains of the Danish West India Company, during the war of Great Britain with her rebellious colonies, amounted frequently to a hundred per cent. in one year. But the prosperity of the institution ended with that war, and this year the shares or actions were given up to the Danish government.

The value of the goods imported by Sweden, this year, from the West Indies, did not exceed £13,400.

The exports from Essequibo and Demerary employed fifteen ships, and consisted of 4995½ hhds. of sugar, 440 tierces and 12,383 bags of coffee, and 1039 bales of cotton.

The quantity of British colonial sugar imported, exported, and consumed, upon an average of five years ending in 1785, was as follows: — Imported, 131,628; exported, 13,120; consumption, 118,502 hhds. of 12 cwt. each.

From the custom-house returns made to the House of Commons, it appears, that in 1785 Great Britain imported from her West India colonies 1,782,431 cwt. of sugar, from which she derived a revenue of £984,221, exclusive of the monies paid for drawback upon the sugars re-exported.

In July, Benjamin Johnson was hung at Jamaica, for piracy and murder, on board the schooner Friendship: his plea, of being born in the United States, was overruled.

The Caribs and runaway Negroes in Dominica had committed numerous depredations. The legislature of that island, to reduce them to obedience, raised a corps of about 500 free people of colour and able Negroes, and placing them under the command of officers

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Memoirs of Lord Gardner, Naval Chronicle, vol. viii. p. 1802.
Parliamentary "Further Papers," 1826, p. 59.
Brougham's Colonial Policy, book i. sect. 3. pp. 493. 500.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, Appendix.
Quarterly Review, vol. ii. p. 10, quoting Parliamentary Papers.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 56. Annual Register, 1785, p. 67.
Atwood's History of Dominica, p. 242.

of the 30th regiment of foot, they were encamped in the woods, and called legions. These preparations made the fugitives more desperate: they attacked a plantation at Rosalie in the night, and murdered four white persons and the chief Negro driver. They continued two days upon the plantation, rioting in their plunder, and escaped unmolested.

John Richardson, a carpenter, was employed to rebuild the works on the Rosalie estate; while at that place a party of the legions, in their way to the camp, called for refreshment, and Mr. Richardson prevailed on them to accompany him, and attack Balla, the principal runaway, in his retreat upon the mountains. They set off in the evening, and travelled all night through the woods. By noon the next day, they were at the foot of the mountain whereon Balla was encamped. The runaways had cut steps, at a great distance apart, up the mountain, and this was the only road up. These steps the party mounted one by one, handing their muskets up from one to the other. Mr. Richardson was the first on the top: he hid himself till the whole party were up, and then they attacked the runaways (who were preparing their dinner) so vigorously and unexpectedly, that they fled in dismay, several throwing themselves down the sides of the mountain. Among the prisoners was Balla's son. From an opposite mountain a sharp firing was kept up on Mr. Richardson's party; whose presence of mind, in calling out the names of the different commanding officers directing them to the right or left, made their opponents believe they were surrounded, and induced them to abandon the place with precipitation.

Many valuable articles, stolen from the plantations, were found in the huts. The survivors were disheartened, and dared not afterwards assemble in any great number; but flying from place to place, were either killed or taken. Balla was taken, gibbetted alive, and a week in dying, and about 150 others either killed or taken.

These were the men whom the Marquis Duchilleau supplied with arms, and acknowledged as his friends, forbidding any attempt to be made to destroy them.

Upon the 27th of August, Jamaica suffered from a hurricane.

At St. Christopher's Mr. Jordan Burke was indicted for cutting off one ear, and slitting the other, of his female slave, Clarissa. Upon the 8th of March, 1785, he was fined £50 currency for the offence.

Upon the same island, August the 24th, Mr. Wadham Strode was indicted for cutting off one ear, and slitting the other, of his Negro-man, Peter, May the 11th, 1785. He was fined £100 currency for the offence.

Atwood's History of Dominica, pp. 230, 245, 246. 248, 249.
Edwards, vol. i. p. 234. Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 299. 439.

These two masters were convicted of cutting off the ears of their Negroes, and fined, the one £100 currency, the other £50 — not on the notion of any civil rights in the sufferer, but that unusual and shocking cruelty, even to brute animals, if of a nature offensive to the public eye, was indictable as a misdemeanour in England; and the principles of the common law of England, when unaltered by statute or act of Assembly, is in force in the colonies.

1786.

At the close of the session in the House of Lords, Lord Rodney stated, that at the capture of St. Eustatia, he seized some papers, which he lodged in the office of the secretary of state, as proofs of the treason of some of the principal merchants on that island. Having called for them, in justification of his conduct before the court of appeal from the High Court of Admiralty, he had learnt, to his utter astonishment, that the books and papers had been carried away, and were not to be found. Mr. Knox, who had been under-secretary in the office of Lord George Germaine, was called as a witness to the bar of the House of Lords, and from his evidence, it appeared that the papers had been safely lodged in the custody of government, and that early in 1782, soon after the appointment of the Marquis of Lansdown to the office of secretary of state, the criminals were enlarged, and the papers were in some manner withdrawn and secreted.

"This was a subject of much speculation and conjecture."

The number of Negroes in Barbadoes was returned, on oath, at 62,115.

The number imported into the Grenades was 2253.

A merchant of Basse Terre, St. Christopher's, a Mr. William Herbert, was found guilty of cruelly wounding a Negro child called Billy, of the age of six years, and sentenced to pay a fine of forty shillings currency. Among other injuries, there was such a contusion in the shoulder of the little boy, that it was not till after exact examination that it could be pronounced by the surgeons that the joint was not dislocated. The bruises about the head and under part of this infant, and of his sister, were numerous and shocking, and the wool was in some places stripped away from the scalp; and the edges of the hoop with which they had been gagged had, either from the tightness of the ligature, or their efforts to call out, cut into their cheeks on each side of their mouths. This West India merchant, when the magistrates proceeded to send the children for

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Annual Register, 1786, p. 128.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 442.
Parliamentary Papers, Report, Lords, 1789.

safe custody to the deputy provost marshal, threatened them with prosecutions for dispossessing him of his property. He acknowledged himself to be the author of the cruelties, but denied their authority to interfere. And after the children had been cured of their wounds, and returned to him, he brought an action against the deputy provost marshal, and laid his damages at £300. The jury, after deliberating forty-eight hours, reported that they could not agree, and at their earnest request were discharged. Mr. Herbert brought his action again to trial, before a new special jury, who refused, notwithstanding the express words of the act, and a clear direction from the bench, to find for the defendant. Their verdict was for the plaintiff, but with only nominal damages. He therefore moved for a new trial, which was granted; but the controversy had bred so much animosity in the island, and threatened so much further mischief, that some of the more respectable part of the community prevailed upon Mr. H. and his friends to desist.

This case was reasonably considered as fatal to every hope of repressing the cruelty of masters by law.

On the 15th of October, 1786, the French King issued an ordinance concerning attorneys and managers of estates in the Windward Islands.

"Art. 4. Attorneys and managers of estates to keep six registers on the estate, to be signed by a neighbouring inhabitant, proprietor of the same description of estate, and having no interest therein.

"*First.* A journal, in which are to be no blanks, giving an account, day by day, of births and deaths of slaves and animals, the number of field slaves, and all accidents or changes relative to the administration.

"*Second.* A register to contain the nature of produce and crops raised.

"*Third.* An account-book to be kept of all produce sold and disposed of out of the colony, containing the quantities, weights, price, names and residence of the buyers, and the name of the captain and vessel.

"*Fourth.* A register, on one side containing the state of all the Negroes and animals, and the purchases; and on the other, the names of the white or coloured workmen employed on the estates, and the agreement made with them.

"*Fifth.* A register of receipt and expenditure.

"*Sixth.* The hospital journal, containing a nominal list of Negroes sick, and the number of days in hospital.

"Art. 5. Attorneys or managers to send in, every three months, to proprietors who do not reside on their estates, or oftener if necessary, an exact copy, duly certified by them, of the journals kept, on which to be inserted the name of the captain and vessel by which sent."

Parliamentary "Further Papers," 1826, p. 60.

The Swedish government established a West India company, with the exclusive privilege of trading to the West Indies, including their new colony of St. Bartholemew. All Swedish subjects were permitted to become subscribers, which entitled them to use the company's warehouses. The directors of the company were chosen by the crown, and all the vessels engaged in the trade must both sail from and return to Stockholm or Gottenburg.

Mr. Dawson, a Liverpool merchant, contracted again with the Spanish government to supply La Guira and the Havaña annually with from 4000 to 5000 slaves. They refused to take females, until an order was obtained that they should take two-thirds males and one-third females, at 150 dollars ahead.

There were not more than 40,000 Negroes in the colonies of Essequibo and Demerary, although 75,000 had been imported in the last forty-two years, exclusive of those brought into the colonies previous to an office being established for entering the number imported, and the Negroes imported by the English settlers, without taking into consideration the number of children which would naturally be born within that period. Mr. Bolinbroke says, "I can only account for it thus: Negroes were sold in the years alluded to, from £20 to £40 sterling, at fifteen months credit. From their bearing such a trifling value, I fear they were too frequently sacrificed by hard work and ill-treatment, under an idea that twelve or eighteen months' labour was sufficient to pay the first cost. It is an absolute fact, that the comfort and health of the Negroes was never much considered, until their value, like that of a blood-horse when put in competition with a cart horse, entitled them to better treatment, for fear they should die, as the loss would then be so much the greater."

Reader, this same Mr. Henry Bolinbroke, from whom the above extract is taken, says, in the same work, p. 116, "The slave-trade is a universal benefit;" and at p. 107, he says, "I assert, with confidence and satisfaction, that there is not so much flogging on a West India plantation, as there is obliged to be on board a man-of-war, with the cat-of-nine-tails, to preserve order." As though enforcing discipline among men for whose exertions an officer is responsible to his country, and overworking men and *women* from avaricious motives, were similar cases, or the power equally abused. The healthiness of our seamen, and the mortality among the slaves, render the mischievous comparison absurd.

On the 27th of January, the brig Basil, Captain Raphael, arrived at Liverpool from Dominica. In her passage she saved the crew of the Charming Molly, bound from Bermudas to

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Brougham's Colonial Policy, book i. sect. 3. p. 498.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Spain.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, Appendix.
Annual Register, 1786, p. 195.

Turk's Island; which vessel had foundered three days before—when the crew, ten in number, took to their boat, to the stem of which they tied a log of wood, to keep her head to the sea. When Captain Raphael discovered them, they had about a pound of bread and two gallons of water left; of the latter they gave to each other a wine-glass full, thickened with a mouthful of bread, once in twelve hours. The boat being only twelve feet in length, one half of the crew were obliged to lie down in her bottom alternately, while the other half sat along the sides; as, in any other situation, the boat must have been top-heavy. From this situation, and expecting every moment to be their last, they were providentially relieved by Captain Raphael, who brought them to England.

Thomas Shirley, Esq. of Oat Hall, Sussex, was appointed governor of the leeward Caribee islands.

Prince William Henry arrived in the West Indies as captain of the Pegasus frigate.

In Barbadoes, there were 16,167 Whites, 833 free people of colour, and 62,115 Negro slaves, this year.

From the custom-house returns to the House of Commons, it appears, that in 1786, Great Britain imported from her West India colonies 1,613,956 cwt. of sugar, from which she derived a revenue of £802,268, exclusive of the monies paid for drawback upon the sugars re-exported.

Upon the 20th of October, it blew a hurricane at Jamaica. The trees were stripped of their leaves, and appeared as if fire had destroyed their verdure. The shores were covered with aquatic birds that had been dashed against the trunks of the mangroves, and killed.

In August, a violent storm laid almost waste the southern coast of Española. At St. Eustatia, it drove all the shipping to sea, and destroyed most of the small craft in the harbour.

Upon the 10th of September, Guadaloupe was swept by a hurricane, which destroyed most of the plantations, and wrecked three ships in the harbour.

On Saturday the 2d of September, an alarming hurricane threw the inhabitants of Barbadoes into the utmost consternation. At eleven P.M., when the storm was at its height, a meteor in the S.E. issued from a dark cloud, and spreading its diverging rays to a vast circumference, continued, with unabated splendour, near forty minutes.

In the morning of the 3d, Carlisle Bay was a scene of desolation—not a vessel had ridden out the storm. In the country, great damage was done to houses and crops: many persons were killed in the ruins of their own houses.

Annual Register, 1786, pp. 210. 214. 218. Southey's Life of Nelson, vol. i. p. 68.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 122. Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 56.
Edwards, vol. i. pp. 234. 346.

1787.

St. George's, in Grenada, was made a free port this year.

The Port of Nassau, in New Providence, was declared a free port, for certain articles specified in 27 Geo. III. c.27.

Thirty thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine Negroes were imported into the French part of St. Domingo, this year.

In January, Dr. Coke, with three other itinerant methodist preachers, visited Dominica, and preached in the house of a Mrs. Webley; but they only remained a few days upon the island, and did not leave any missionary behind them.

In 1790, Lord Rodney stated, in his examination before the committee of the House of Commons, that the French, in 1787, paid 200 livres a head premium, for every slave imported into St. Domingo and St. Lucia; and 100 for each imported into Martinico and Guadaloupe.

Elias Bascombe, a white man, and a Negro-boy slave, named Mark, the property of Benjamin Webster, Esq. of Grenada, were, on the 16th of August, out fishing in a canoe, when a heavy squall drove them to sea, without either food or water: they were driven to Jamaica, and nineteen days at sea — during all which time they had only two flying fishes, which jumped into their boat, to subsist upon. They made a sail of their clothes, and the rain-water caught in it was their only drink. The canoe drifted on shore, near Old Harbour — the Negro-boy lying upon his face, and Bascombe resting his head upon the boy, both naked, and both motionless. They were carried to a neighbouring Negro-hut, and recovered.

St. Domingo.—The French court suppressed the council at Cape François, and vested their authority in the one at Port-au-Prince, which was the ordinary place of residence of the captain-general, the intendant, and the other chief officers of the administration. Seats at this council were also given to officers of the army, and men in office of a lower rank than formerly, to augment their number: so that the minister, in the name of the court, met with less contradiction, and governed the colony with less difficulty.

The inhabitants of the northern province, of which the cape was the capital, were exceedingly enraged at this alteration. They were indignant that the most populous, the richest, and the best-cultivated province, which had consequently the most need "d'un tribunal en dernier ressort," should be deprived of it. They were jealous, also,

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Colquhoun's British Empire, pp. 357. 373. Edwards, vol. iii. p. 220.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 353. Parliamentary Papers, 1790.
Woodard's Narrative, Lond. 1804, Appendix, No. 9.
Soirées Bermudiennes, par F. C., 1802, Bordeaux, p. 27.

that Port-au-Prince should be thus benefited at the expence of the cape, and that the power of the court should be increased in the colony.

A statement of their griefs, signed by 5000 of the inhabitants, was sent to Paris, to the Marquis de Paroi, and M. de Raynaud, to lay before the King.

The intendant took possession of the money arising from a poll-tax of a dollar a head upon the Negroes, which the parishes imposed upon themselves, to keep the churches in order, and supply the expences of divine worship. It amounted to about 1,500,000 livres annually, and the expenditure was under the controul of the council. The intendant disposed of it in the same manner he did the royal taxes. This seizure augmented the irritation in the north, and many refused to pay the tax. The disobedient were ordered to Port-au-Prince, where one of the wealthiest died: his death was imputed to vexations occasioned by the "chef des finances," and this added fuel to the general animosity.

September the 23d, at Balize, between four and five A.M., a hurricane came on from the N.N.W. About ten, it shifted to the S.W., and blew with increased violence. At the same time the sea rose and prevented the running off of the land floods. The low-lands were overflowed: not a house, hut, or habitation of any kind, on either side the Balize, was left standing — more than 500 were thrown down. One hundred persons perished: dead carcasses and logs of mahogany were floating about in every direction. Eleven square-rigged vessels, besides smaller ones, were totally lost.

The field Negroes in Cuba were found, by actual enumeration, to amount to 50,000 in number.

Imports of Slaves to British West Indies, from Report of Privy Council — Medium of Four Years.

	Imports.	Re-exports.
Jamaica	10,451	3,619
Barbadoes	367	5
Antigua	768	100
St. Kitt's	658	102
Nevis, &c.	544	—
Tortola	120	—
Dominica	6,203	4,960
Grenada	2,583	170
St. Vincent's	1,825	300
Tobago	1,400	—
Total Slave Trade	24,919	9,256

Soirées Bermudiennes, par F C., 1802, Bordeaux, pp. 30. 33.
Annual Register, 1788, p. 193.
Brougham's Colonial Policy, book ii. sect. 2. p. 97.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 5.

Population of the British West Indian Isles, from Report of the Privy Council, 1788.

	Whites.	Free people of colour.	Slaves.
Jamaica -	23,000	4,093	256,000
Barbadoes -	16,127	2,229	64,405
Antigua -	2,590	1,230	37,808
St. Kitt's -	1,912	1,908	20,435
Nevis -	1,514	140	8,420
Montserrat -	1,300	260	10,000
Tortola, &c. &c.	1,200	180	9,000
Grenada -	996	1,125	23,926
Dominica -	1,236	445	14,967
St. Vincent's -	1,450	300	11,853
Tobago -	1,397	1,050	10,539
Total,	49,762	10,569	465,276

The number of converted Negro-slaves under the care of the Moravian brethren, at the end of this year, was—in Antigua, 5465; in St. Kitt's, 80; in Barbadoes and Jamaica, about 100; in St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John, about 10,000; in Surinam, about 400—making, in the whole, 16,045.

In August, Dominica was visited by three gales of wind, on the 3d, 23d, and 29th, which destroyed all the vessels at the island. All the barracks and buildings upon Morne Bruce were blown down and destroyed, and several houses in the town shared the same fate.

May the 1st, the Earl of Dunmore was appointed governor of the Bahama islands.

In January, the number of Methodists in society, in Antigua, amounted to nearly 2000.

The first Methodist missionaries landed in St. Vincent's on the 9th of January, 1787, and preached in Mr. Claxton's house, the same evening, to a large congregation. The next evening they preached at Mr. Clapham's, about ten miles from Kingston; and here Mr. Clarke, the missionary, was offered the use of a room for his congregation.

The president of the council also gave him leave to preach in the court house on Sundays. Six or seven of the soldiers stationed on the island were Methodists. The Negroes considered the missionaries as men imported for them, and the commencement of the undertaking was considered by the society exceedingly favourable.

The number of slaves imported into the Grenades was 3693.

Sir W. Young's West India Common-place Book, p. 3.
Edwards, vol. i. p. 495. Annual Register, 1787, pp. 222. 233.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 253, 254, 255. 438.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.

Governor Seton remarked, that there were a considerable number of free Negroes in St. Vincent, but the number could not be ascertained with any exactness.

General export of the four staple articles of produce of the British sugar colonies, from return to order of House of Commons, May the 5th, 1806, for 1787: —

154,066 hhds. of sugar,
44,300 punchs. of rum,
33,990 cwt. o coffee, and
9,430,515 pounds of cotton.

Jamaica, St. Vincent's, Grenada, and Dominica were the only islands in which coffee was cultivated; and more than one-half of the produce of them all came from Dominica.

From the capture of Jamaica, to December, 1787, 676,276 Negroes were imported into that island, of whom 31,181 are said to have died on board ship, after their entry, previous to their being distributed among the planters. Two hundred and forty thousand Negroes were upon the island in December, 1787. Between the latter end of 1780 and the beginning of 1787, 15,000 Negroes are said to have died from famine, or of diseases contracted by scanty and unwholesome diet. The inhabitants blame the interdicting foreign supplies — as though, in one of the most fertile countries in the world, an agricultural population could not feed themselves, if allowed so to do.

In January, the first Methodist missionary was established at Basse Terre, St. Christopher's: his name was Hammet.

Barbadoes, to 1787, returned, on yearly average, of sugar crops, 12,211 hhds.

Antigua produced and exported 19,500 hhds. of sugar this year; and Grenada produced 13,500 hhds. of sugar.

Dominica produced 18,149 cwt. of coffee.

The produce of the French colony in St. Domingo freighted, for Europe alone, 470 ships, which contained 112,253 tons, and employed in their navigation 11,220 seamen.

From the report made to the privy council in 1788, it appears, that in 1787, the British West India trade employed 575 ships, carrying 132,025 tons of produce.

And from the returns made by the custom-house to the House of Commons, it appears that Great Britain imported 1,926,791 cwt. of sugar, from which she derived a revenue of £988,513, exclusive of the monies paid for drawback upon the sugars re-exported.

Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 18, 19, 20, 21. 29, 30. 32, 33. 36. 56. 74.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 56. 398.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.

1788.

The mode of death in capital cases has by several acts — that of the Virgin Islands, 1783, sect. 1; acts of Jamaica, 1744, sect. 4 — been referred to the discretion of the court; but in other islands, where no such acts existed, a practice prevailed, of inflicting, under the authority of an order from the governor and council, what is there called an "exemplary death."

The most common modes of such executions have been, roasting the convicts alive, or hanging them in irons upon a gibbet, to perish by hunger and thirst.

In several islands, and especially in Barbadoes, no acts appear, from the parliamentary papers (1823), to have been yet passed, prohibiting such practices. The King's prerogative is a fountain of mercy, and not of torture; and the West India governors, to whom it is delegated, should have no power to order or permit these "exemplary deaths," or aggravate the severity of the law against any criminal.

In consequence of repeated failures in their sugar-crops, the planters of St. Christopher made, for the first time, an unsuccessful trial of cotton; and immediately all slaves were prohibited by law to plant that article, to sell it, or to have it in their possession.

It is a common practice in the islands to prevent the raising and owning certain articles of agricultural produce, lest a dishonest traffic might be carried on by the slaves. A cruel law! The indigent majority are violently deprived of the benefit of their little possessions, lest the opulent few should want any possible security against theft! The general maxim is, that whatever articles the planters may raise for profit, slaves shall not be suffered, in the same island, to raise or possess at all.

In Barbadoes, ginger and cotton are considered staple productions; and there the growers having, as the act recites, found it inconvenient that slaves should be at liberty to plant those articles, it declares, that should, thereafter, any be found in the possession of a slave, they shall be deemed stolen goods.

In Jamaica, breeding horses and mules is a source of profit to the planters: here, therefore, the slaves are forbidden to own any; and heavy penalties were imposed on any planter disposed to encourage the industry of any head slave upon his "pen," by permitting him to acquire such property.

A like prohibition exists in the Virgin Islands as to cattle, and from a like cause.

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 299. 309.

In St. Vincent's, the restriction comprises cocoa and coffee, as well as cotton and ginger; and to possess them subjects a slave to the same punishment as the receiving stolen goods.

In Bermuda, where vegetable provisions and small live stock are staple articles, the slaves are absolutely interdicted from raising any species of either for their own use, even though they should have their master's permission.

And in the Bahama islands, where there is abundance of vacant lands, the slaves were, by sect. 11. act of 1784, prohibited from raising the articles of food necessary for subsistence; and the plantations they had made were cruelly to be destroyed.

The meliorating act of Dominica, passed this year, enacts, "That if any white or free person shall be *convicted* of maiming, defacing, or mutilating, or cruelly torturing, any slave, he shall be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months, or fined in any sum not exceeding £100, current money of this island (£57 2s. 10¼d. sterling)."

The reader will wonder at the confidence of those who attempted to pass upon the privy council and parliament the following piece of mummery, when they are told that the witnesses examined on the part of this island (Dominica) stated that there were no legal marriages among the slaves: —

"*And in order to protect the domestic and connubial happiness of slaves*, be it, and it is hereby further enacted and ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that any white person or free person of colour whatever, who shall take away and cohabit with the *wife or wives* of any slave or slaves in this island, shall, on conviction thereof before any three or more magistrates, be subject to a fine not exceeding the sum of £50, to be recovered and appropriated in manner and form as is directed by the first clause of this act;" — *i. e.* to be paid into the treasury, for the public uses of the island.

But this enactment has been omitted in the existing acts of those islands.

In Jamaica, it was enacted, this year, "that if any slave shall offer any violence, by striking or otherwise, to any white person, such slave, upon due and proper proof, shall, upon conviction, be punished with death, or confinement to hard labour for life, or otherwise, as the court in their discretion shall think proper to inflict; provided such striking or conflict be not by command of his or their owners, overseers, or persons intrusted over them, or in the lawful defence of their owners' persons or goods."

Sir William Blackstone says, "the future process of law is by no means an adequate remedy for injuries accompanied with force, since it is impossible to say to what wanton length of rapine or cruelty outrages of this sort might be carried, unless it were permitted a man immediately to oppose one violence with another. Self-

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 19. 159. 187. 188.

defence, therefore, as it is justly called the primary law of nature, so it is not, neither can it be, in fact, taken away by the law of society. The colonial assemblies have not scrupled to abrogate this "primary law of nature," self-defence is a capital crime in a slave — and murder, a fifteen-pound penalty in his oppressor!

By the same act, *any* slave, who should run away and be absent for six months, was to be confined to hard labour for such time as the court should determine, or to be transported for life; and if the runaway had been two years upon the island, *he was to suffer such punishment as the justices should think proper to inflict.* By their former acts this punishment was death. By this, the power of inflicting it is retained, without the odium of enacting it.

In Grenada, an act was passed, November 3d, which directs, that slaves are not to be compelled (except in carrying on such manufactures as require night or extra labour) to work until day-break, nor at their times of breakfast or dining, nor after sun-set, except in carrying one bundle of grass from the field to the stable. They are to have half an hour for breakfast, and from twelve till two for dinner. They are to be instructed by a clergyman in religion.[1]

There is a penalty of £165 currency, on any proprietor who shall debauch a married slave. An attorney or employed person so doing is to forfeit half his salary. Slaves so doing to suffer corporal punishment, not extending to life or limb. Three persons, being freeholders and possessors of thirty slaves, are by the justices to be nominated "guardians of the slaves," who are to take an oath to

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 288.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1798, Part III.

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[1] Cowper says, "Laws will, I suppose, be enacted for the more humane treatment of the Negroes; but who shall see to the execution of them? the planters will not, and the Negroes cannot. In fact we know, that laws of this tendency have not been wanting, enacted even amongst themselves; but there has been always a want of prosecutors, or righteous judges — deficiencies which will not be very easily supplied." Cowper has overlooked the greatest want, the one which indignant prosecutors or upright judges cannot supply, and which can only be remedied by enabling slaves to give evidence. "On the whole, I fear (he says) there is reason to wish, for the honour of England, that the nuisance had never been troubled; lest we eventually make ourselves justly chargeable with the whole offence by not removing it. The enormity cannot be palliated; we can no longer plead that we were not aware of it, or that our attention was otherwise engaged; and shall be inexcusable, therefore, ourselves, if we leave the least part of it unredressed. Such arguments as Pharaoh might have used to justify his destruction of the Israelites, substituting only sugar for bricks, may lie ready for our use also; but I think we can find no better." — *Cowper's Correspondence.*

"The resolution of the House of Commons in 1823, declares 'that the great object of emancipation must be accomplished at the earliest period which shall be compatible with the well-being of the slaves themselves, with the safety of the colonies, and with a fair and equitable consideration for the interests of private property.' But (Lord Bathurst says) the court of policy must recollect, that if, on one hand, parliament and his Majesty's government stand pledged to give the planters all equitable compensation, they stand equally pledged to take such measures as may ultimately, though gradually, work out the freedom of slaves. The court of policy may be assured, that from the final accomplishment of this object this country will not be diverted." — *Lord Bathurst's Letter, 25th Feb.* 1826.

see the act duly executed: and managers and overseers are to answer them upon oath.

The number of Negroes in Barbadoes, returned on oath by Mr. Agent Brathwaite, was 64,405.

Twenty-nine thousand five hundred and six Negroes were imported into the French part of St. Domingo this year.

The Assembly at Jamaica passed a law to prohibit the burial of the dead within the walls of the churches; and as this regulation injured the rector's perquisites, an augmentation of £50 per ann. was made to most of the livings.

A bill was brought into parliament, for regulating the number of slaves to be put on board each vessel carrying them from Africa. The Liverpool merchants petitioned against the bill, and counsel for the petitioners appeared at the bar, and examined witnesses to prove that the hardships alleged did not exist.

The act directs, that in every ship where the space between the two decks shall not be less than five feet in height, and where the cabin shall be fitted for the accommodation of the Negroes, in the proportion of five persons for three tons, if the ship's burthen does not exceed one hundred and sixty tons, and of three persons for two tons, if the burthen of the ship does exceed one hundred and fifty tons, and in every ship where the space between the two decks shall be less than five feet, or where the cabin shall not be fitted for the accommodation of the Negroes, in the proportion of one person for every ton burthen of the ship or vessel on board which such natives shall be so conveyed, under the penalty of £20 for every native exceeding the number allowed — half the forfeiture to go to the King, and half to the prosecutor.

Valuation of British property vested in the British sugar colonies — Report of the Privy Council, 1788 :—

	Patented Estates, as taxed per acre.	Negroes.
Jamaica	1,860,000	280,000
Barbadoes	106,470	60,000
Antigua	69,277	36,000
St. Kitts	43,726	26,000
Nevis	30,000	8,000
Montserrat	38,400	9,500
Virgin Islands	25,000	9,000
Dominica	100,000	22,083
St. Vincent's	25,000	15,000
Grenada	89,000	20,000
Trinidad	- - - -	19,709
Tobago	28,000	14,883
	2,414,873	560,375

Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1798, Supplement to No. 15.
Edwards, vol. i. p. 265.; vol. iii. p. 220. Annual Register, 1788, p. 136. 300.
Sir W. Young's Common place Book, p. 24.

At £50 each Negro, amounts to - -	£28,018,750
Value of lands, buildings and stock - -	56,037,500
Value in towns, stores and shipping -	2,500,000
	£86,556,000

On the 11th of December, Dr. Coke and Mr. Baxter the Methodist missionaries, set out for the territories of the Caribs in St. Vincent's, and were received by them with great civility. Chatoyer's son, John Dimmey, accompanied them: he had been for some time under the tuition of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter, and spoke English tolerably well. He walked twenty-five miles by the side of Dr. Coke's horse, and introduced the missionaries to De Valley, a Carib chief, who regaled them with eggs, cassada bread and punch. His little boy had been instructed by Mr. Baxter, and amused them all by his spelling.

A school-house had been erected for the Carib children near the river Byera, which was the boundary of their country; and the Methodists had sent a man and his wife from London, to instruct them.

The school-house was now divided: Mr. Baxter, the missionary, was to have part, and Mr. Joice, the schoolmaster, the rest.

The number of slaves imported into the Grenades was 2,915.

The population of Dominica was returned at 1236 Whites, 445 free Negroes, and 14,967 slaves.

Mr. Parry, the governor, stated the inhabitants of Barbadoes, to amount to 25,000 Whites, and 75,000 Blacks and people of colour, exclusive of about thirty families of Caribs.

Twenty-seven thousand five hundred and fifty-three slaves had been imported since 1784 — 15,781 of whom were exported, leaving 11,772, who remained on the island.

" Taking an indiscriminate number of children who have died in the year, all being under twelve years of age, there appears to have died of them, thirty-five at or under twelve months; forty-two from one to four years; eighteen from four to eight years; one about nine; two about ten, and one at about eleven years of age. Of these, three-fourths died of teething, worms, and the concomitants incident to these disorders."

Upon the 19th of December, the Methodist missionaries again visited Dominica. Governor Orde received them with great civility, and Mr. M'Cornock remained upon the island, to spread the tenets of that sect. In the course of a few months he made 150 converts; but his zeal was greater than his strength, and he killed himself by his exertions.

Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 370.; vol. ii. pp. 122. 259. 344. 354.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Supplement to No. 15.

January the 3d, Thomas Thompson, of the sloop Sally, saw a white flag flying upon the island of Inagua: he found twenty-three women and fifty-three men and boys, who had been landed there from a brig, from Dunlary in Ireland, bound to Charlestown. They were told the island was well inhabited, and provisions plenty; but when they found themselves deceived, and wanted to return on board, they were fired at, and one man killed. They were all in a most distressed situation.

The island of Jamaica exported 1,201,801 pounds of coffee, this year.

In April, the following regulations were made at Jamaica, in favour of the Negroes: —

" *Firstly.* Every possessor of a slave is prohibited from turning him away, when incapacitated by sickness or age; but must provide for him the wholesome necessaries of life, under a penalty of £10 for every offence.

" *Secondly.* Every person who mutilates a slave shall pay a fine not exceeding £100, and be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months; and in very atrocious cases, the slaves may be declared free.

" *Thirdly.* Any person wantonly or bloody-mindedly killing a slave, shall suffer death.

" *Fourthly.* Any person whipping, bruising, wounding, or imprisoning a slave, not his property, nor under his care, shall be subject to fine and imprisonment.

" *Fifthly.* A parochial tax to be raised for the support of Negroes disabled by sickness and old age, having no owners."

The annual loss of slaves, in twenty years ending this year, (that is, the excess of deaths above the births), was in Jamaica about one in a 100.

Thirty-two millions of pounds of coffee were exported from the French part of St. Domingo this year.

For four years and nine months previous to the 30th of September, 1788, only fifty-two slaves had been executed in Jamaica.

Montserrat is stated to contain about 30,000 acres, of which 6000 are appropriated to the culture of sugar, 2000 to cotton, 2000 to ground provisions, 2000 to pasturage: the rest is either very mountainous or very barren.

There were 8310 slaves upon the island, one-third of whom were employed in cultivating the land, one-third were old Negroes or children incapable of work. Tradesmen, grass-gangs, and domestics formed the remainder.

The average crop, from 1784 to 1788, both inclusive, was

Annual Register, 1788, pp. 201. 206. — 1791, p. 178, Pitt's Speech.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 74.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789.

2737 hhds. of sugar, 1107 puncheons of rum, 275 bales of cotton. No coffee or cocoa grown for exportation.

The net income of the value of the estates, not above three per cent. on the capital invested.

Nevis was stated to contain 24,640 acres, whereof 6000 were capable of culture. About 4000 slaves were employed in the cultivation of sugar; 1000 in menial offices; 500 in fishing, trades, and other employments; and 2800 unfit for labour, from infancy, age, and infirmity. The produce, one hogshead of sugar per acre. If the planter resided on the spot, his net income was £10 per hogshead; if he resided in England, £8.

In Grenada, there were 26,775 slaves; and of free coloured people, 454 males and 661 females.

A new Negro, if of a good country and young, was worth £40; and a young woman, £38. The island is stated to contain 80,000 acres, of which 45,000 were cultivated.

The number of slaves in St. Christopher's were estimated at 23,000; and the produce of an acre, at a hogshead and a half of sugar. The net income of the owner, "perhaps at six per cent."

Mr. Dawson, a Liverpool merchant, contracted with the Spanish government to supply the Spanish colonies with not less than 3000 slaves, but as many more as he could procure, at 200 dollars for the males, 190 for the women, 175 for the boys, and 145 for girls. The proportion to be two-thirds males and one-third females.

1789.

The Moravian missionaries began their pious labours in Tobago.

About this year, the Assembly at Grenada passed a law to provide guardians in every parish, who were obliged, upon oath, to oversee and protect the Negroes from injurious treatment. Soon afterwards, a lady was fined £500, for cruelty towards her Negro.

Dr. Coke says, that the inhabitants of Grenada treat their slaves with less severity than those of any of the other islands.

The Moravians in Antigua baptized, in the course of this year, 507 adults and children in St. John's, and 217 in Gracehill, from Easter 1788 to Easter 1789.

The Assembly of Jamaica passed an act, to give the overseers twenty shillings a head, for every child they raise to twelve months old, in any of the plantations.

At Demerara, about 1000 Negroes from the different plantations agreed to murder all the white men. The time was fixed; but

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Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Mr. Spooner's Evidence.—Spain, Part VI.
Dr. Coke's History of the West Indies, vol. i. p. 209.; vol. ii. pp. 75. 425.
Annual Register, 1789, p. 20.—1790, p. 4.

the Negroes, on one of the plantations, mistaking the day, murdered every white man on it; which gave the alarm, and saved the rest. The ringleaders were put to the torture, which they bore with fortitude, glorying in what they were about to execute.

The population of Surinam and Berbice was estimated at 4000 Whites and 90,000 Negroes — being an increase of 40,000 slaves since the year 1769, while the number of Whites remained the same.

The lords of the privy council determined, on an appeal from the Bahama islands, that upon change of property of a vessel, a new register cannot be obtained for her at any other port than that where she was originally registered; and that a British subject, without a fixed place of residence, cannot be the owner of a vessel, so as to be entitled to register her as a British ship.

There was not any rain fell in Antigua for seven months. The crop of sugar was destroyed, and 5000 horned cattle perished for want of water.

By the statement of the Liverpool merchants, in the report of the committee of 1789, the average number of Negroes exported by Great Britain was estimated at 38,000. The opinion of the French traders, mentioned in the same report, is, that the British carry over 40,000 to their West India islands, and re-export two-thirds of that number.

A slave, in Tobago, was stabbed by a White, manager of an estate, in the presence of many other slaves. The man died on the spot, and the White was tried; but, for want of such evidence as West India courts of law require, was acquitted. "Another case (Mr. Justice Ottley says) occurred in St. Vincent's. A White was strongly suspected of having shot his brother-in-law. The fact was said by two or three slaves to have been done in their presence, and the coroner's inquest (he thinks) confirmed this suspicion, by a verdict of wilful murder against this White. At a court where he (Mr. Justice Ottley) presided, the cause was tried; and although there scarcely remained a doubt with the jury of the man's guilt, he was nevertheless acquitted, for want of sufficient evidence."

In February, the Methodist missionary at St. Christopher's (Mr. Hammet) had raised in different parts of the island a society of 700 members. These converts were raised in the space of two years.

In June, Mr. Hammet applied to General Walterstorff, the governor of Santa Cruz, for permission to instruct the slaves in that island. He was ordered to draw up a petition to the King of Denmark for that purpose: he did so; and Dr. Knox, a Presbyterian

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Annual Register, 1790, p. 16. Edwards, vol. i. p. 485.
Brougham's Colonial Policy, book i. sect. 3. p. 531.; book ii. sect. 3. p. 179.
Parliamentary Papers, 1790, Henry Ottley, Esq., Chief Justice of St. Vincent's, Evidence.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 58. 169.

minister upon the island, got it translated into the Danish language, and the original and the translation were sent to Copenhagen. On the presumption of the future success both of the petition and of the preaching, Mr. Hammet provisionally engaged a spot of land on which to erect a chapel for public worship. No answer was returned to this petition.

Upon the 21st of May, the Moravians at St. Christopher's laid the foundation of their chapel: it was opened in the October following. "After the usual Sunday's service, seventeen Negroes were baptized; three baptized women were received into fellowship, and twenty-five were added to the candidates for baptism. The day was closed by the communicants, who were sixty in number, who then partook of the holy sacrament." "In general (they observe), the number of Negroes that attend the chapel has much increased this year, and many have become not only hearers of the word of God, but doers also; seventy-five adults and eleven children were baptized in the year 1789; and the number of Negroes that were baptized, or considered as candidates for baptism, belonging to this mission, was upwards of 300 at the close of the year."

The King of Spain issued a royal order respecting the supplying the islands of Cuba, Santo Domingo, and the provinces of Caracas, with Negroes; by which Spaniards and foreigners were allowed for two years to import them duty free. If bought for domestic service, the purchaser was to pay an annual capitation-tax of two dollars, in order to check luxury.[1]

It appears from official documents from the Havaña, dated July 1811, and laid before the Cortes, that the import of slaves into the Havaña, from 1763 to this year, 1789, was only 24,875.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 50.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Spain, Part VI.
Inquiry into the Duty of compelling Spain to relinquish her Slave Trade in Northern Africa, 1816, p. 57.

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[1] Upon the 31st of May, the Spanish government issued the following royal ordinance for the government and protection of slaves in the Spanish colonies:—

PROCLAMATION.

"In the code and other collection of laws published in this kingdom; in the abridgment of the statutes concerning the Indies; in the general and particular orders communicated in my dominions in America since the discovery of it; and in the ordinances, which, being examined by my council of the Indies, have merited my royal approbation, the system of making slaves useful has been established, observed, and constantly followed, and every thing necessary decreed, with respect to the education, treatment, and occupation which their masters are obliged to give them, agreeable to the principles and rules of religion, humanity, and the good of the state dictate, consistent with slavery and the public tranquillity: nevertheless, as it is not an easy matter for all my subjects in America who keep slaves to be sufficiently instructed in all the laws of the said collection, and much less in the general and particular orders and ordinances approved of for different provinces; and considering that, on this account, notwithstanding what has been decreed by my august predecessors with respect to the education, treatment, and occupation of slaves, some abuses have been introduced by their masters and the stewards, which were not at all conformable, but, on the contrary, opposed to the system of the legislation, and to the general

The French in St. Domingo had in their possession, this year, 480,000 Negro slaves.

Edwards, vol. iii. p. 13.

and particular orders decreed upon the subject. Therefore, in order to remedy such abuses, and having in consideration, that, in consequence of the liberty granted to my subjects by my royal order of the 28th of last February, for carrying on the slave trade, the number of slaves will be considerably augmented in America, and having a due attention to this class of individuals, in the mean time that the general code of laws, which is forming for the dominions of America, is established, and that they are published, I have resolved, that, for the present, the following instruction shall be punctually observed by all the masters and possessors of slaves in my said dominions:

" Chapter I.—*Education.*

" Every one who has slaves, of whatever class and condition he may be, is obliged to instruct them in the principles of the Roman Catholic religion, and in the necessary truths, in order that they may be baptised within the year of their residence in my dominions; taking care to explain to them the Christian doctrine every holy day, on which they shall not be obliged nor permitted to work neither for themselves nor for their masters, excepting at the time of the crop, when it is customary to grant them liberty to work on holy days. On those, and other days, when they are obliged to hear mass, the owners of the estate shall be at the expense of maintaining a priest to say mass to them, and to explain to them the Christian doctrine, as likewise to administer the holy sacraments, not only on such days when he is obliged to do it, but likewise whenever he is wanted; taking care that every day, as soon as their work is finished, they say the rosary in presence of the master or of the steward with the greatest composure and devotion.

" Chapter II.—*Food and Clothes.*

" It being manifest that the masters of slaves are under the obligation of feeding and clothing them, as likewise their wives and children, whether these be of the same condition or free, until they can earn their own bread, which it is presumed they are able to do when the females arrive at the age of twelve, and the males at that of fourteen; and not being able to give any fixed rule with respect to the quantity and quality of the food and clothes which are to be given them, on account of the difference of climates, constitutions, and other particular causes, it is ordered, that with respect to those matters, the justices of the districts in which the estates are situated, with the approbation of the magistrates and syndic, or recorder, as protector of the slaves, shall fix upon and determine the quantity and quality of the food and clothes which are daily to be given them, according to their ages and sexes, and conformable to the custom of the country, and like those which are commonly given to day labourers, and linen, the same as the work people, who are free, have. Which determination, after having been approved of by the audience of the district, shall be fixed upon the door of the town-house, and the churches of every place, and of the oratories or hermitages of the estates, that every one may know it, and that no one may plead ignorance.

" Chapter III.—*Occupation of Slaves.*

" The first and principle occupation of slaves must be agriculture, and not those labours that require a sedentary life; and thus, in order that their masters and the state may be benefited by their work, and that they perform it as they ought to do, the justices of towns and villages, in the same form as has been mentioned in the foregoing chapter, shall regulate the work to be done in the course of the day, and they shall have two hours to themselves, to be employed in manufactures or other occupations, for their own advantage; neither the masters nor their stewards can oblige those slaves to work who are sixty years old, or younger than seventeen; nor employ the women slaves in any business which is not conformable to their sex, or in which they must be with the males; and the said masters shall contribute two dollars every year for their domestic service, as it is ordered in the eighth chapter of the Royal Order, published on the 28th of last February.

" Chapter IV.—*Diversions.*

" On holy days, when masters cannot oblige nor permit their slaves to work, after they have heard mass and the Christian doctrine explained to them, the said masters, or their stewards, shall allow the slaves to divert themselves innocently in their pre-

The colonists summoned parochial and provincial meetings, for the purpose of electing deputies to be sent to the states-general then

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Edwards, vol. iii. p. 16.

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sence; but they shall not allow them to be amongst those of the other estates, nor even with the females; hindering them from excess in drinking, and taking care that their diversions are ended before prayer time.

"Chapter V.—*Habitations and Infirmary.*

"All masters of slaves must give them habitations, distant those of the men from those of the women, if they are not married; and they must be commodious, and sufficient to defend them from the inclemencies of the weather, with beds, blankets, and every thing necessary. Each man shall have his own bed, and there shall be no more than two in a room. Another habitation, separated from the rest, which must be warm and commodious, shall be destined for the sick, who must be assisted with every thing necessary by their masters: and in case that the latter, on account of not having room enough, or being near some town, do wish to send them to the hospital, they shall contribute a daily sum, which shall be determined by the justices, for their assistance, in the manner and form mentioned in the second chapter; and if any of them should die, it is the master's obligation to pay the charges of the funeral.

"Chapter VI.—*Old Men, and those who are constantly ill.*

"Slaves who, on account of old age or illness, are not able to work, as, likewise, children of either of the two sexes, must be maintained by their masters; and these latter cannot give them their liberty in order to get rid of them, except by giving them a sufficient stock, which must be approved of by the justices and syndic, to maintain them without any other assistance.

"Chapter VII.—*Marriages of Slaves.*

"The masters of slaves must not allow the unlawful intercourse of the two sexes, but must encourage matrimony. Neither must he hinder them from marrying with slaves of other masters; in which case, if the estates are distant from one another, so that the new married couple cannot fulfil the object of marriage, the wife shall follow the husband, whose master shall buy her at a fair valuation, set upon her by skilful men, who shall be nominated by the two parties; and in case of disagreement, a third shall be appointed by the justice to fix the price. If the master of the husband does not agree to the purchase, the master of the wife shall have the same faculty.

"Chapter VIII. — *Obligations and Punishments of Slaves.*

"As masters of slaves are obliged to maintain them, to educate, and to employ them, in useful work, proportioned to their strength, age, and sex, without forsaking their children and those who are old and sickly, so, on the other hand, there is an obligation on slaves to obey and respect their masters and the stewards, to perform the work which is given them to do, conformable to their strength, and to venerate them as heads of the family. Thus he who will not fulfil any of those obligations must be punished, either by the master of his estate, or by his steward, according to the nature of his offence, with prison, chains, or lashes, which must not exceed the number of twenty-five, and those must be given them in such a manner as not to cause any contusion or effusion of blood; which punishment cannot be imposed on slaves but by their masters or their stewards.

"Chapter IX. — *Of the Imposition of greater Punishments.*

"When slaves commit crimes against their masters, mistresses, the children, stewards, or any other person, which require greater punishments than those mentioned in the before-going chapter, the master, his steward, or any one else who was present when the offence was committed, shall secure the delinquent, and inform the justice of it, that in the audience of the slave's master and of the attorney who defends the cause of the former, a law-suit may be commenced against him, and a punishment imposed upon him according to the importance and circumstances of the offence; observing in every thing what is ordered by the laws with respect to the causes of other delinquents in general. And if the slave be sentenced to pay one-third of the charges of the law-suit, his master shall be responsible for it, besides the corporal punishment which, according to the importance of the crime, the delinquent shall suffer, after having been approved of by the audience of the district, whether it be death or mutilation of members.

sitting in France: eighteen were elected, six for each province; who, without any authority from the French ministry or the colo-

Edwards, vol. iii. p. 16.

"Chapter X.—*Defects or Excess of their Masters and their Stewards.*

"The master or his steward, who does not fulfil what is ordered in the before-going chapters, with respect to the education, habitations, &c. of slaves, or who shall forsake their children, and those that are old and sickly, shall be fined fifty dollars for the first time, one hundred for the second, and two hundred for the third; and those fines shall be paid by the master, even in the case that the fault had been committed by his steward only, if the latter were not able to pay it; one-third of which belongs to the informer, another to the judge, and the other is to be put into the fine chest, which will be treated of afterwards: and in case the before-mentioned fines should not produce the desired effect, and they should commit the same fault again, other greater punishments shall be inflicted upon them, as disobedient to my royal orders; and as soon as I am informed of their disobedience, I shall take my measures accordingly. When their masters or their stewards are guilty of excess in punishing the slaves, causing them contusion, effusion of blood, or mutilation of members; besides paying the before-mentioned fines, they shall be prosecuted as criminals, and have a punishment inflicted upon them according to the crime which they had committed; and the slave shall be confiscated and sold to another master, if he is able to work, putting the amount of him into the fine chest; and if he cannot be sold on account of being unable to work, he shall not be restored to his master, who shall be obliged to allow him a daily sum, which shall be fixed upon by the justice, for his maintenance and clothes during the remainder of his life, paying it every three months in advance.

"Chapter XI.—*Of those who injure Slaves.*

"As masters and stewards can alone chastise slaves with that moderation which is required, no other person who is not their master, or his steward, shall injure, chastise, wound, or kill them, without incurring the punishment enacted by the laws against those who commit the like excesses towards free people; and the master of the slave who has been injured, chastised, or killed, shall commence a law-suit against the criminal, and the attorney, as protector of slaves, shall defend his cause.

"Chapter XII.—*List of Slaves.*

"The masters of slaves shall be obliged every year to deliver in to the justice of the town or village, in the district of which their estates are situated, a list, signed and sworn to by them, of all the slaves which they have, with distinction of sexes and ages, in order that the notary of the town-house may take an account of them in a separate book, which is to be kept for this purpose at the said town-house, together with the list presented by the master, who, whenever any of his slaves die, or absent themselves from his estate, must inform the justice of it, within the term of three days, that, by order of the attorney-general, it may be noted in the book, in order to avoid all suspicion of having been killed: and if the master does not fulfil this, he shall be obliged fully to prove either the absence of the slave or his natural death, for, on the contrary, a law-suit will be commenced against him.

"Chapter XIII.—*Method of investigating the Excesses of Masters or Stewards.*

"The distance of some estates from the towns; the inconvenience that would result from permitting slaves to go out without an order from their master, under the pretext of complaining; and the just regulations of the law, which orders that no fugitive slave shall be assisted, protected, or concealed; require that means be facilitated which are proportioned to all those circumstances, in order that it may be known how they are treated by their masters; and one of those is, that the priests who go to the estates to explain to them the Christian doctrine and to say mass, do obtain information from the said slaves how they are treated by their masters and the stewards, and if every thing be observed which is ordered in the before-going chapters, in order that they may give a secret and reserved notice of it to the attorney-general, and that he may cause it to be investigated whether the masters or their stewards are wanting in the whole or in part of their respective obligations; and the said priests, who, by reason of their ministry, do give the said secret notice, shall not be answerable for any nial government, embarked for France, as the legal representatives of an integral part of the French empire. M. Duchilleau, the governor, issued proclamations to prevent the meetings, which were treated with indignity and contempt. The deputies arrived at Versailles in June, about a month after the states-general had declared themselves the National Assembly. Eighteen deputies from one colony was thought excessive; and it was with difficulty six were allowed their seats among the national representatives.

Upon the 20th of August, the National Assembly voted the declaration of rights, the promulgation of which in St. Domingo occasioned a general ferment: it declared, that "all men are born and continue free and equal as to their rights." The colonists declared it was calculated to convert their contented Negroes into implacable enemies, and render the whole country a scene of bloodshed.

Orders were sent from France to convoke the inhabitants, for the purpose of forming a legislative assembly for interior regulation. The inhabitants of the northern district had already constituted a

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 17. 19. 21.

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thing, even supposing that the complaints of the slaves are not just; for this notice is given only to the attorney-general that he may demand for the justice to nominate an individual of the town-house, or another person of approved conduct, who is to investigate the business, and to form the first proceeding which he is to deliver in to the justice, who shall pursue the proceedings, and determine the cause, according to law, giving information of it to the audience of the district, and admitting of appeals in all such cases as are authorised by the laws.

"Besides those means, it will be necessary that people of good characters and conduct be appointed by the justices and magistrates to visit the estates three times a year, and to make inquiry whether every thing be observed which is ordered in the foregoing chapters, informing the said justices of it, who must apply the remedy; and it is likewise declared to be a popular action, that of informing against a master or his steward for not obeying one or the whole of the said chapters, as the name of the informer shall not be made known, and he shall have the part of the fine which he may deserve, without being responsible in any other case than in that where it is proved that the information is false. And lastly, it is likewise declared, that the justices and attorney-general, as protectors of slaves, will be made answerable for any neglect of theirs in not having made use of the necessary means to have my royal resolutions put into execution.

"Chapter XIV. — *Chest of Fines.*

"In the towns and villages where the before-mentioned regulations are to be formed, and where the courts of justice are, a chest with three keys shall be made, and kept in the town-house; one of which keys shall be delivered to the justice of the peace, another to the governor, and the third to the attorney-general, in order to keep in the said chest the produce of the fines which are to be laid on those who do not fulfil my royal orders; and the said produce shall be employed in the necessary means of making them to be observed, neither can there be a single maravedi taken out of it for any other purpose, without an order signed by the three who keep the keys, expressing its destination, and they shall remain responsible, and under the obligation of restoring what has been spent or employed to other purposes, for fear that for those reasons, or for others, their accounts, which must be remitted every year to the intendant of the province, together with the attestation of the produce of the fines, may not be approved of by him.

"In order that all the rules prescribed in the before-going chapters may be fulfilled, I annul every law, royal order, and a provincial assembly, which met at Cape François in November. The western and southern provinces did the same. The western assembly met at Port-au-Prince, the southern at "Les Cayes." Parochial committees were at the same time established, for a more immediate communication between the people and their representatives.

All these provincial assemblies concurred in the necessity of a full and speedy colonial representation, and voted, that if instructions from the King for calling such an assembly should not be received within three months, that the colony should itself adopt and enforce the measure.

Large bodies of Mulattoes, determined to claim the full benefit of all the privileges enjoyed by the Whites, appeared in arms in different parts of the country; but acting without sufficient concert, were easily overpowered. They were defeated at Jaquemel, and their chiefs imprisoned. At Artibonito, the revolt was more extensive; but on the submission of the insurgents, an unconditional pardon was granted.

Against such of the Whites as had taken part in favour of the people of colour, the rage of the populace was extreme.

M. Ferrand de Beaudierre drew up a memorial in the name of the Mulatto people, claiming the full benefit of the declaration of rights. This was considered as a summons to the Negroes to revolt, and the author was committed to prison; but the populace took him from thence by force, and put him to death.

The first Methodist meeting-house was built in Barbadoes by subscription this year: it was sufficiently large to contain six or seven hundred people, and was opened on the 16th of August. Mr. Pearce, the missionary, by whose zeal it was built, landed upon the island in the latter end of 1788, and began to build, trusting to a bank of faith to pay the expences. Several tradesmen, who could not afford to give money, contributed their labour. In March, the whole number of persons belonging to the Methodist society amounted to fifty, of whom only sixteen were Whites.

They soon began to attract attention: large mobs pelted the building with stones, and frequently interrupted the prayers with hideous noises. Some of the most riotous were carried before a magistrate, who observed, that "the offence was committed against Almighty God; it therefore does not belong to me to punish."

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 22, 23. Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 143. 145.

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custom which are opposed to them; and I command my supreme council of the Indies, viceroys, presidents, audiences, governors, intendants, justices, ministers, &c., that they fulfil and cause to be executed whatever is decreed in this my royal order, for this is my will.

"Published at Aranjuez, the 31st May, 1789."—*African Institution, Fifth Report*, pp. 93—101.

This insult gave great encouragement to the mob: preaching by candle-light became impracticable. This persecution served as a stimulus, and by the end of the year the Methodists reckoned forty-four members in society. Several people of colour were compelled to quit the connexion. Blacks were forbidden to attend, on pain of corporal punishment.

In February, there were 2800 persons in the society of Methodists in Antigua, and 2000 in the Moravian society.

Early in 1789, Dr. Coke says, "We again made two visits to Nevis. From this period we may date the introduction of the gospel into the island. At this time we (the Methodists) formed a little class of twenty-one catechumens, and provided for their instruction before our departure, by leaving them to the care of Mr. Owens, one of our missionaries, who was appointed to take upon him the charge of the mission throughout the whole colony."

Dr. Coke landed at Port Royal, in Jamaica, on the 19th of January, 1789. He was the first of that class of men who attempted to make converts in that island; and the following extract is from his own report:—"At this period the form of godliness was hardly visible in Jamaica; and its power, except in some few solitary instances, was totally unknown. The exertions of the Moravian brethren were quite inadequate to the field which lay open before them: iniquity prevailed in all its forms; and both Whites and Blacks were evidently living without hope and without God in the world."

Dr. Coke preached four times in a gentleman's house in Kingston to small but increasing congregations. The room being too confined, a Roman Catholic gentleman offered him the use of a very large one, which had been a public concert-room.

"The first evening I preached there," he says, "the congregation was considerable, and received the word with great decency and great attention. Whilst I was pointing out to the unregenerate the fallaciousness of all their hopes, and the impossibility of reversing the decree, 'Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of heaven,' and seriously inquiring of them, whether they had found out some new gospel as their directory, a poor Negro woman cried out, 'I am sure you are a new priest.' The second evening, the great room, and all the piazzas round it, were crowded with people. I believe there were four hundred white people present (the largest number of Whites I ever preached to in the West Indies), and about two hundred Negroes, there being no room, I think, for more. After I had preached about ten minutes, a company of gentlemen, inflamed with liquor, began to be very turbulent; till at last the noise increasing, they cried out, 'Down

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Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p.413.; vol. ii. pp. 149. 441.; vol. iii. p. 13.

with him, down with him!' They then pressed forwards through the crowd in order to seize me, crying out again, 'Who seconds that fellow?' on which my new and gallant friend, Mr. Bull, whose house was then my residence, stepped forth between the rioters and me, saying, 'I second him against men and devils.' A lady also stood up, and reasoned boldly with the rioters on the impropriety of their conduct. They soon afterwards retreated, vociferating, 'Down with him, down with him!'

"The spirits of the congregation were so discomposed by this unhappy accident, that I gave out a hymn, and then chose another text, and preached to a serious and attentive audience.

"Between three and four hundred thousand souls, living chiefly without hope and without God in the world, forbade all supineness; and the attention of many among those who heard, by giving an early promise of a productive harvest, presented an opening which pointed out our path.

"Four or five families of some property opened their houses, and very evidently their hearts also, to me; and assured me, that any missionaries we should in future send to the island should be welcome to beds, and to every thing their houses afforded.

"Thus was the work of God begun in the south of Jamaica."

Mr. Wilberforce made the following propositions to the House of Commons:—

"That the number of slaves annually carried from Africa to the British West Indies amounted to 38,000. That the probable demerits of the supposed delinquents, as alleged by the advocates for the trade, could not justify, or even sanction, the hardships they endured. That the waste of human life must be dreadfully enormous to require such an annual demand. That the influence which our support of this traffic must have on the minds of the inhabitants of Africa at large must be productive of the most pernicious consequences, and must for ever prevent that social intercourse which might ultimately tend to their civilization.

"That the injury sustained by British seamen engaged in this inhuman employment was almost beyond calculation. That the fatal consequences attending the transportation of slaves across the Atlantic were such as made humanity shrink with horror. That if this trade were discontinued, Africa presented sources of wealth which might be secured on the ground of honourable commerce, from which we were now totally debarred. That the causes of mortality among the Negroes might be traced to this common source of their calamities. That, with proper attention to their condition, the Negro population might easily be increased in the islands of Barbadoes and Jamaica. That the present system rendered it more profitable for the planter to import Negroes from Africa than to rear an infant in the colony. That these

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Imperial Magazine, vol. i. p. 863.

profits were abominable, as they were the price of blood. And, finally, it could be proved that no considerable disadvantage would be experienced ultimately by those who were interested in the trade, if all further importation were prohibited."

The Baron de Wimpfens carried out and set the first seeds ever sown in St. Domingo of the narcissus, hyacinth, and violet

Table of West India Exports for 1789. *Return to the House of Commons*, 1806.

	Hhds. of Sugar 13 cwt.
Jamaica	75,000
Barbadoes	9,400
Antigua	12,500
St. Kitt's	11,000
Nevis	4,000
Montserrat	3,150
Tortola, &c.	6,100
Dominica	5,450
St. Vincent's	6,400
Grenada	15,000
Tobago	5,800
Total	153,680

Antigua varies from 2500 to 18,000 hhds.; St. Kitt's, from 8000 to 17,000; Barbadoes, from 6000 to 13,000; whilst Grenada, St. Vincent's, and Tobago, vary only as from 12,000 to 16,000 hhds. average.

The number of slaves annually exported from Africa, as stated by the delegates from Liverpool, were 74,000.

By the British	38,000
French	20,000
Dutch	4,000
Danes	2,000
Portuguese	10,000
Total	74,000

More of these came from Bonny and New Calabar than any other place.

In February, the inhabitants of Tortola amounted to 1000 Whites, and 8000 coloured people and Blacks.

The population of Santa Cruz was estimated at 30,000 souls.

Baron de Wimpfens' St. Domingo, p. 141.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 28, 29.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789, Part IV. No. 14.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 111.

Mr. Hammett, the first Methodist missionary at Tortola, commenced his labours in the Virgin Islands and Santa Cruz this year.

The exports from the French colony of St. Domingo were 47,516,531 pounds of white sugar, 93,773,300 of brown; 76,835,219 of coffee; 7,004,274 of cotton; and 758,628 of indigo.

The produce of 1787, 1788, and 1789, amounted, on an average, to £4,956,780 sterling.

Mr. Gregg, secretary to the King's commission, and auctioneer, in disposing of the lands in the ceded islands, stated that he had sold 174,000 acres for £620,000, under a covenant for the purchaser to cut down, clear, and cultivate one acre out of twenty every year, till half the uncleared lands shall be cleared, under penalty of paying £5 per annum for every acre neglected.

Of the 106,470 acres of land which Barbadoes is said to contain, there are hardly any not cultivated which are capable of being brought into culture.

1790.

In January, the royal order for convoking a general colonial assembly was received at St. Domingo: it appointed Leogane for the place of meeting. The provincial assemblies disapproved of this order, adopted another plan, resolved to hold the assembly at St. Marc, and fixed the time for the 16th of April.

On the 8th of March, the national assembly, in France, voted, "that it never was the intention of the assembly to comprehend the interior government of the colonies in the constitution which they had framed for the mother country, or to subject them to laws which were incompatible with their local establishments: they therefore authorize the inhabitants of each colony to signify to the national assembly their sentiments and wishes concerning that plan of interior legislation and commercial arrangement which would be most conducive to their prosperity."

On the 28th of the same month, the national assembly passed a decree of instructions for the execution of their decree of the 8th: it consisted of eighteen articles, and contained, among other things, a declaration, "that every person of the age of twenty-five and upwards, possessing property, or having resided two years in the colony, and paid taxes, should be permitted to vote in the formation of the colonial assembly." And, "that the national assembly would not cause any innovation to be made, directly or indirectly,

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 112. 398.
Parliamentary Papers, 1789, Slave Trade Examination, John Gregg, Esq.
Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1789. Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 24, 25. 63.

in any system of commerce in which the colonies were already concerned."

The Mulattoes, doubting the meaning of the decree, or not being powerful enough to enforce their claims, sent deputies to the national assembly, to demand an explanation of it.

The general assembly met at St. Marc, on the 16th of April: it was composed of 213 members, of whom twenty-four were for the city of Cape François, sixteen for Port-au-Prince, and eight for Las Cayes, most of the other parishes returned two each; and the colony, as far as regarded the Whites, was allowed to be fairly represented.

M. Peynier, the governor-general, with the officers of the army, tax-gatherers, and all the persons belonging to the courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction, beheld with indignation and dread this great and sudden revolution, and the planters were not united among themselves. The provincial assembly of the north counteracted by every means in their power the proceedings of the general assembly at St. Marc; who, on the 28th of May, published a decree, which became the ostensible motive, on the part of the executive, for commencing hostilities: it consisted of ten fundamental positions.

" 1. The legislative authority, in every thing which relates to the internal concerns of the colony, is declared to reside in the assembly of its representatives.

" 2. That no law be considered as ' a law definitive,' unless it be made by the assembly, and confirmed by the King.

" 3. That, in cases of urgent necessity, a decree of the assembly should be considered as ' a law provisional:' such decree to be sent to the governor-general, who, within ten days, was to cause it to be enforced, or transmit his observations thereon.

" 4. The necessity of the case on which such decree was to depend, to be decided by a majority of two-thirds of the assembly.

" 5. If the governor shall send his observations, a majority of two-thirds confirm the decree, and the governor-general shall immediately enforce it.

" 6. No decree shall be enforced in the colony, until the general assembly shall have consented thereto.

" 7. In cases of pressing necessity, the importation of articles for the support of the inhabitants shall not be considered as any breach in the commercial regulations between St. Domingo and France.

" 8. Provided also, that every act executed provisionally, in cases of urgent necessity, shall be sent for the royal sanction. And if the King shall refuse his consent, its execution shall cease.

" 9. A new general assembly shall be chosen every two years, and none of the members who have served in the former shall be eligible in the new one.

" 10. The assembly decree, the preceding articles form part of

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 28, 29. 31. 33, 34. 64.

the constitution of the French colony in St. Domingo. They shall be sent to France, for the sanction of the national assembly and the King — be notified to the governor-general, and transmitted to all the districts of the colony."

Upon the publication of this decree, the enemies to the assembly industriously spread a report that the assembly intended to declare the colony an independant state; and when this report failed, it was asserted that the members were sold to the English. This was believed: the western parishes recalled their deputies; the inhabitants of Cape François renounced obedience to the assembly, and requested the governor to dissolve it. These disputes gave him great satisfaction.

At this time the crew of the Leopard, line-of-battle ship, at Port-au-Prince, declared themselves in the interest of the assembly, and refused obedience to their captain. The assembly immediately transmitted a vote of thanks to the seamen, and required them, in the name of the law and the King, to detain the ship, and wait their orders. The seamen affixed the vote of thanks upon the ship's mainmast.

Two days after this, M. Peynier, the governor, issued a proclamation to dissolve the assembly: he pronounced the members and their adherents traitors to their country, and enemies to the King. He declared his intention to employ all his force to defeat their projects, and called on all officers, civil and military, for their co-operation and support.

His first proceedings were directed against the committee of the western provincial assembly, who met at Port-au-Prince: he determined to arrest their persons; and M. Mauduit, colonel of the regiment of Port-au-Prince, undertook to conduct the enterprize, with 100 of his soldiers. The committee held their consultations at midnight. M. Mauduit found the house protected by 400 of the national guards. A skirmish ensued: several were wounded on both sides, and two were killed on the part of the assembly. M. Mauduit returned, bringing away the national colours in triumph.

The general assembly now summoned the people to hasten, properly armed, to protect their representatives; and most of the inhabitants of the adjoining parishes obeyed the summons. The Leopard was brought to St. Marc, for the same purpose. The northern provincial assembly joined the governor, and the preparations on both sides threatened an obstinate and bloody conflict, when the general assembly unexpectedly determined to go to France, and justify their conduct to the King and the national assembly in person. Accordingly, eighty-five members, of whom sixty-four were fathers of families, embarked on board the Leopard, and on the 8th of August sailed for Europe. A momentary calm

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.

followed. M. Peynier resumed the reins of government, and sent to the governor of the Havaña for Spanish troops.

M. Peynier and M. Mauduit were anxious to restore the ancient system.

Upon the 12th of October, James Ogé, a Mulatto, landed in St. Domingo, with arms and ammunition for the people of colour. He joined his two brothers, and they exerted themselves in exciting the Mulattoes to revolt. He sent a letter to the governor, reproaching him and his predecessors with the non-execution of the Code Noir, and demanded that its provisions should be enforced throughout the colony. He required that the privileges enjoyed by the Whites should be extended to all without distinction, and declared himself the protector of the Mulattoes, and his intention of taking arms in their behalf, unless their wrongs were redressed.

He established his camp at Grand Riviere, about fifteen miles from Cape François, and was joined by about 200 followers; who, notwithstanding he cautioned them against shedding innocent blood, proceeded to murder the first white man they met.

At Cape François, the inhabitants proceeded with vigour to suppress the revolt. They soon invested the camp of the Mulattoes, who made less resistance than was expected. Sixty were made prisoners, many were killed, the rest fled to the mountains. Ogé and his brothers took refuge in the Spanish territories.

The white people breathed nothing but vengeance against the Mulattoes, the whole body of whom expected to be proscribed and massacred. They formed camps in different parts, but dispersed upon a conference with M. Mauduit, who was accused of persuading them to postpone their purpose, and of assuring them the King and all the friends of the ancient government were secretly attached to their cause.

In November, M. Peynier resigned the government, and returned to Europe: he was succeeded by M. Blanchelande, who made a peremptory demand of Ogé and his followers from the Spaniards, who delivered them to a detachment of French soldiers in December. Ogé and his companions were lodged in the jail of Cape François.

The deputies who had embarked for France, were received at Brest with shouts of applause, but at Paris the national assembly granted them one audience only, and indignantly dismissed them from the bar: it then decreed, that all the pretended acts of the colonial assembly were utterly null and of no effect; that the assembly was dissolved, and all its members rendered incapable of being delegated to any future colonial assembly; and that they should continue in France in a state of arrest, until their further pleasure was made known.

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 40. 46, 47, 48. 50. 54. 56.

This decree excited surprise and indignation in St. Domingo; and when orders for electing a new colonial assembly were issued, many parishes declared that their representatives were in France, and refused to elect others.

M. Mauduit and his regiment became the objects of popular resentment: they wore the avowed signal of the royal party, a white feather, in their hats, and were considered as enemies to the planters.

The population of the French colony in St. Domingo was estimated at 544,000 souls, exclusive of troops and sailors.

The general receipt of the revenue amounted to 14,673,014 livres.

The northern district, which begun at the river Massacre, ended at Cape St. Nicholas, and included Tortuga, was divided into twenty-six parishes: it contained 11,996 white inhabitants, and 164,656 slaves; 288 plantations of sugar, 2009 plantations of coffee; 443 of indigo, and sixty-six of cotton.

The inhabitants of Port-au-Prince were estimated at 14,754, of whom, 2754 were Whites, 4000 free people of colour, and 8000 slaves; and the whole population of the western district amounted to 205,759 — of these, 12,798 were Whites, and 192,961 slaves: it contained 357 sugar plantations, 489 of cotton, 1952 of indigo, and 894 of coffee.

The population of the southern district was estimated at 82,849 souls, of whom 6037 were white, and 76,812 slaves: it contained 148 plantations of sugar, 765 of indigo, 234 of cotton, and 214 of coffee.

In March, the Methodists in Barbadoes succeeded in bringing their riotous opponents before some magistrates, who obliged the offenders to pay the expences of the prosecution, and dismissed them, upon their promising never to disturb the congregation any more. The Methodists amounted to sixty-six in society.

Towards the close of 1790, the Methodists had so far gained a footing in Nevis, that they had found means to procure a chapel.

In May, a mutiny broke out among the French soldiers at Tobago: they beat their officers. Some formed garrisons without any officers, others left the island. The town was set on fire, about two o'clock in the morning. Wooden houses and a high wind spread the conflagration in every direction. Some few magazines which stood to windward were preserved — all the rest of the town was reduced to a heap of ashes. The inhabitants were prevented by the soldiers from stopping the progress of the flames. Every avenue was guarded, and no Negro suffered to enter.

Edwards, vol. iii. p. 57.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 149, 150. 174.; vol. iii. pp. 14. 390, 391. 394. 396. 398.
Baron de Wimpfen's St. Domingo, p. 250.

In the August following, twenty vessels were driven on shore by a hurricane, and completely lost.[1] Mr. Hamilton's sugar-works, with all the stores, were completely destroyed. "His new mansion, which had been built upon pillars, was lifted up by the tempest, and removed to some distance; but being well made, did not go to pieces. Mrs. Hamilton, two ladies, and five children, were in the house, and suffered little or no harm. Mr. Hamilton being absent from home, knew not what had happened; but returning in the night, which was excessively dark, and groping for his door, fell over the rubbish left on the spot, and so far hurt himself, that he was confined for a week." An old uninhabited building which stood close by the house, was lifted from the ground and thrown upon their habitation; so that they expected every moment to be buried in the ruins of both.

Mr. John Montgomery, a Moravian missionary, who landed upon the island in April, at the close of the year, says — "But our greatest grief is, that we have not found one single soul that seeks a Saviour."

Towards the close of this year, Dr. Coke again visited St. Vincent. In different parts of the island, several hundreds had joined themselves to the societies; but Mr. Baxter, unable to make any impression upon the Caribs, had removed to Kingstown. The French priests at Martinico had persuaded the Caribs that the missionaries were spies, sent by the King of England to explore their land; and that as soon as they had finished their discoveries, they would withdraw, and the King would send an army to conquer their country. Mr. Baxter endeavoured to convince the Caribs of the falsehood of these reports; but their continued sullenness convinced him that it was high time to hasten out of the country with Mrs. Baxter.

Upon the 27th of November, Dr. Coke arrived at Grenada. He waited upon General Mathews, the governor; who, after inquiring what doctrines he taught, and by what principles he was governed, declared his earnest wish that the Negroes might be fully instructed in the principles of Christianity. "Instead of viewing the Methodists as men who opposed the regular establish-

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 65. 176, 177. 267.

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[1] A boat belonging to the Ulysses of Glasgow, Captain Campbell, by a sudden squall shipped a sea in Montego Bay, by which she was instantly sunk, and only one sailor besides the captain saved: Captain Campbell got hold of an oar, and the sailor of a small cask, which he held by the bung hole; in this situation Captain Campbell felt a shark touch his feet, against which he defended himself by sometimes pressing the oar with the whole weight of his body upon the shark, and at other times getting to the extremity of the oar, and striking him, by these means he preserved himself, until he was taken up by some Negroes who had heard his cries. The shark was about eleven feet long.

Annual Register, 1790, p. 31.

ment, he considered them as co-operating in the same design;" and observed to Dr. Coke, "there will be work enough both for you and the established clergy of the island."

Dr. Coke promised that a missionary should be forthwith sent to the island.

The Moravian missionaries in Barbadoes had a Negro congregation, consisting of "forty persons baptized." On Sundays, they had always a numerous auditory of white and black people.

At the close of this year, the Moravian congregation of baptized Negroes at St. Christopher's had increased to upwards of 400.

Mr. Joshua Steele of Barbadoes, in pursuance of his plans for bettering the condition of his slaves, registered all his adult male slaves as copyholders, and gave them separate tenements of half an acre of land each, descendible to their children on the plantations, but not to the issue of any foreign wife; and in case of no such heir, to lapse again to the lord, to be regranted. The annual rent was so many days' labour.

He had previously abolished arbitrary punishment upon his estates, and established a Negro court or jury to keep all in order. His copyholders succeeded beyond his expectation, and the new system altogether tripled the annual net clearance of the estate.

The Methodist chapel "in Kingston, Jamaica, was completed: it is eighty feet in length, and forty in breadth, and will contain about 1500 persons. It has galleries on three sides, and is built exactly on the plan of our chapel (the Methodists), at Halifax, in Yorkshire. Underneath the chapel we have a hall, which is absolutely necessary in this very hot country, four chambers, and a large school room."

Most of the plants carried to Jamaica by the Earl of Effingham succeeded beyond his expectation. A number of the Guzerat seeds which failed in Liguanea succeeded, viz. the wheat, barley, Ashmood rice, all the pulse and many others. A polyanthos plant, producing both male and hermaphrodite flowers, strongly resembling an acacia both in its habits and botanical characters, and which had been improperly called a mangosteen tree, thrived finely, and produced abundance of a pleasing subacid fruit.

On the 20th of February, Henry Hamilton, Esq., was appointed governor of the Bermuda islands.

The law courts at Jamaica, which, previous to this year, used to have four terms annually, and began on the last Tuesdays in

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Coke's West Indies, vol. i. pp. 291. 420.; vol. ii. p. 132.; vol. iii. p. 50.
Clarkson's Thoughts on Emancipation, 1823. Annual Register, 1790, pp. 40. 56.

February, May, August, and November, were altered, and "a long vacation was introduced from the end of the May term, which concludes about the middle of June, to the commencement of the winter term, which begins on the last Tuesday in November." Thus, there was only three terms held instead of four.

Lieutenant Henry Hew Dalrymple, of the 75th, in his examination before the committee of the House, stated, that "A French planter (at Grenada) sent for a surgeon to cut off the leg of a Negro, who had run away. On the surgeon's refusing to do it, the planter broke the leg in pieces with an iron bar, and then the surgeon cut it off. This planter did many such acts of cruelty, and all with impunity. It did not appear to be the public opinion that any punishment was due to him; for though it was generally known, he was equally well received in society afterwards as before."

With respect to the act passed in Grenada in 1788, Lieutenant Dalrymple states the objection which he heard to its passing was, that it might make the slaves believe that the authority of their masters was lessened; but "many thought it would be of little use, as it was a law made by themselves against themselves, and to be executed by themselves!"

1791.

In the beginning of March, sentence was pronounced against James Ogé and twenty-two of his followers, for the revolt in St. Domingo. Twenty, with his brother, were condemned to be hanged. Ogé himself, and his Lieutenant Chavané, were adjudged to be broken on the wheel, and left to die upon it. Chavané suffered not a groan to escape him in the extremity of his torture; but Ogé's fortitude deserted him: he implored mercy, and promised to make great discoveries, if his life was spared: A respite of twenty-four hours was granted him.

He declared (previously swearing to the truth of what he should depose), that in the beginning of the preceding February, if the swelling of the rivers had not prevented it, a numerous body of people of colour would have attacked the Cape; that there were upwards of 11,000 already joined. He gave the names of most of their leaders, who, he said, were assembled in caverns between the "Crete à Marcan" and the "Canton du Giromon, in the parish of "Grande Riviere;" and that he would guide a party to the spot, where the chiefs might be seized; and that, if it were possible for him to obtain pardon, he would expose himself to any danger to arrest them.

Ogé was executed on the following day, and no notice taken of

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Parliamentary Papers, 1790, Part II. Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 50, 51. 221, 222.

his confession. The persons before whom it was made were members of the council of the northern province, and devoted to the ancient system.

The planters at large declare, that the royalists in the colony, and the philanthropic and republican party in the mother country, made them the victims of their desperate factions, and that General Blanchelande kept that a secret, which, if published, would have saved the colony.

On the 3d of March, Le Fougueux and Le Borée, two ships of the line, arrived from France with troops; who, upon their landing, refused all intercourse with Mauduit's regiment. In consequence, the latter took the white feather from their hats, and gave their commander to understand that he had lost their confidence. Mauduit told his grenadiers, that he was willing, for the sake of peace, to restore to the national troops the colours he had taken from them, and deposit them himself, at the head of his regiment, in the church, where they were usually kept; but he added, that he depended upon their affection to protect him from personal insult.

The next day, the ceremony took place. At the moment Mauduit restored the colours, one of his own soldiers cried out, that "he must ask pardon of the national troops on his knees!" Mauduit started back with indignation, bared his bosom to their swords, and fell pierced by a hundred wounds. These soldiers were afterwards sent prisoners to France.

In May, the claim of the free Mulattoes was brought forward by the Abbé Gregoire in the national assembly, who, on the 15th of that month, enacted, "that the people of colour resident in the French colonies, born of French parents, were entitled to, as of right, and should be allowed the enjoyment of all the privileges of French citizens: and among others, to those of having votes in the choice of representatives, and of being eligible to seats both in the parochial and colonial assemblies."

Upon the passing of this decree, the deputies from the colonies signified their intention to decline any further attendance.

On the 30th of June, the intelligence of this decree arrived at Cape François. No words can describe the rage and indignation of the white colonists. They had in their first general assembly, which met on the 16th of April, 1790, decreed, that in future no harder duty should be required of the people of colour than from the Whites; and that the harsh authority exercised over them by the royal army officers was oppressive and illegal; but now, when they were to have a vote in framing the laws by which they were to be governed, the Whites unanimously determined to reject the civic oath, or suffer the innovation. The national cockade was every

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 28. 52, 53. 58. 60. 64, 65. 68.

where pulled down, and a motion made in the provincial assembly, to hoist the British standard instead of the national colours. The inhabitants proceeded to elect deputies for a new general colonial assembly. One hundred and seventy-six members met at Leogane, on the 9th of August, and declared themselves the general assembly of the French part of St. Domingo, and resolved to hold their meeting at Cape François, appointing the 25th of August as the day for opening the session. So great was the agitation of the public mind, that M. Blanchelande found it necessary to pledge himself to suspend the execution of the obnoxious decree, whenever it should come out to him properly authenticated: thus proving that his authority in the colony was at an end.

Alarmed at these proceedings, and dreading a general proscription, the Mulattoes collected in armed bodies, in different places, and on the morning of the 23d of August, before day-break, the inhabitants of the town of the Cape were called from their beds, with the intelligence that the Negroes in the neighbouring parishes had revolted, and that the work of death was begun. Sudden and numerous arrivals of persons who had with difficulty escaped the massacre, were dreadful confirmations of the truth of the report. It was the Negroes of the parishes Du Limbe and De l'Acul: they approached within a league of the town of the Cape. The buildings and canefields were every where in flames, and the conflagrations were visible from the town. They lasted nearly three weeks, the houses in the town, and the vessels in the road, were covered with the lighter particles of the burning canes. Human nature revolts at the detail of the horrible outrages committed, however firmly convinced that the sum of miseries which could be borne by one generation would still leave a larger mass of misery upon the side of the avengers unatoned for.

The governor, at the request of the general assembly, took the command of the national guards, and sent the women and children on board the ships. There were a considerable number of free Mulattoes in the town, the whole of whom would have been murdered by the lower class of Whites, if the governor had not vigorously interposed. A body of them sallied out, attacked the insurgents, killed several, and brought in eighty prisoners.

M. Touzard, with a detachment, strengthened by a party of seamen, marched to attack a body of about 4000 of the rebel Negroes, at the plantation of a M. Latour. Many were destroyed; but their numbers increased in a centuple proportion to their losses, and M. Touzard was obliged to retreat. Had he been followed to the town, it might have been burnt without difficulty.

The governor, determined to act solely upon the defensive, fortified the roads and passes leading to the town. Troops, with

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 69, 70, 71. 75. 77. Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 86. 88. 95.

artillery, were stationed on the Haut du Cap, and the town was surrounded by a strong palisade and chevaux-de-frize. To such of the distant parishes as could be reached either by land or sea, notice of the revolt was transmitted, and the white inhabitants of those parishes formed a chain of posts, which for a short time seemed to prevent the rebellion from spreading beyond the northern provinces. Two of these camps, one at Grande Riviere, the other at Dondon, were forced with great slaughter, the Mulattoes assisting the Negroes.

The Blacks mounted the white cockade; and Jean François, their generalissimo, wore the insignia of several military orders, and took the title of "Commandant des Armées du Roi." The other chiefs also wore ribbons and crosses; and any white man who would wear a white cockade, needed no other passport to procure leave to pass to the Spanish part of the island.

The Cape was surrounded with a high palisade of large stakes, and its advanced post upon the height, half a league from the town, was in a good state of defence. The forts at Petite Anse, half a league off, commanded the road, which from thence led to the ferry and to the town; and various corps-de-garde, established upon the heights around, seemed to prevent the possibility of a surprise. The Whites from the plain and the hills to the eastward, joined to the inhabitants of Fort Dauphin, Jacquesy, Caraçol, and Petite Anse, protected these positions upon the sea-side. At the foot of the Roçou hill, a camp was established (which was afterwards moved to M. Depardieu's house), composed of Whites, people of colour, and some troops of the line. One still larger was pitched at M. Bertin's house at Port Margot, to keep the rebels of the west coast in check. Lastly, to the south, upon Mount Pélé, two leagues from the Cape, a battery commanded the plain.

All that the colonists could do, with their greatest efforts, was to maintain themselves in these positions. Port Margot was frequently and furiously attacked by the rebels, but gallantly defended by M. Valerot. Roçou, at that time commanded by M. de Rouvrai, repelled the attack of an immense number of Blacks, headed by Jeannot, after an action of three hours. Pardieu was twice attacked by at least 10,000 rebels each time, and successfully defended by two young Creoles, Pageot and Pinaud.

Notwithstanding the town of the Cape was thus surrounded by forts, it was very nearly carried by surprise. A corps of Blacks, about 600 strong, chosen men, left the foot of the Mornes de la Tannerie: in the afternoon, about sun-set, they appeared before Petite Anse, and made demonstrations of an attempt to storm it. The forts fired at them after dark. Having thus given the alarm there, they turned to the left, and crossing a great salt lake, about ten at night, they swam across the little river opposite the hospital,

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Edwards, vol. iii. p. 78.   Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 93. 109.

within gun-shot of the town. From thence passing rapidly to the grand road, their first advantage was the having cut off the communication between the Cape and its grand advanced post above the town. Here an aide-de-camp and some others fell into their hands.

Leaving some to keep possession of the road, the rest divided into two corps — one stormed the hospital, and put its inmates and guard to the sword; the other proceeded to Fort Belair, situated upon the top of a hill between the hospital and the Cape, from whence the guns commanded the roads, the town, and the anchorage. At eleven P. M. a soldier, who had escaped from the Negroes by the fleetness of his horse, communicated the appalling intelligence to the town. The inhabitants immediately concluded all their outposts were taken, and that the Cape must fall. The "Generale" was beat — the troops assembled — all the male Negroes confined to the houses, and all the fires put out. After waiting two hours in suspense, two shots, fired into the town from Fort Belair, completed the terror of the inhabitants. The firing of musketry, however, announced that some opposition was making to their progress; and about two o'clock in the morning the inhabitants learnt that the regiment of the Cape, assisted by some companies of militia, had driven the rebels from their positions, and dispersed them.

As soon as the works for the defence of the town were completed, offensive operations were undertaken against the rebels. M. Rouvrai, with a small army, encamped at Roçou. A war of extermination was carried on by both parties. The rebels had great quantities of ammunition, which the Negroes had stolen from the royal arsenal in the town of Cape François, and secretly conveyed to their friends. Within two months, 180 sugar plantations, and 900 coffee, cotton, and indigo settlements, were destroyed, and the buildings burnt. Twelve hundred families were reduced from opulence to depend on charity for their sustenance and clothing. Upwards of 2000 white persons had been massacred. More than 10,000 of the insurgents had perished by famine and the sword, and some hundreds by the hands of the executioner, in tortures that disgrace the perpetrators, and reduce them as men of humanity almost to a level with their opponents.

On the 26th of September, an English squadron arrived at Cape François to assist the Whites. The officers landed amidst a crowd of grateful spectators, who all joined in one general outcry against the national assembly, and mounted the black cockade, as indicative of their wishes that the English would send an armament and take possession of the colony.

The rebellion soon spread to the western division. Two thousand insurgents, chiefly men of colour, joined by six hundred Negroes, appeared in arms in the parish of Mirabalais, and began their ope-

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 6. 81, 82. 84.

rations by burning the coffee-plantations adjacent to the plain of the Cul-de-Sac. They repulsed some troops sent from Port-au-Prince, and laid waste the country for thirty miles. At length they approached Port-au-Prince; but the slaves on the sugar-plantations in this part of the country not joining the Mulatto chiefs, as they expected, some of the latter declared that they were not averse to a reconciliation, and did not wish to desolate the country, but to support the national decree of the 15th of May.

These sentiments coming to the knowledge of M. de Junecourt, an eminent planter, he undertook the office of mediator; and, through his well-timed and powerful interposition, a convention, called the "concordat," was agreed, upon the 11th of September, between the free people of colour and the white inhabitants of Port-au-Prince. It declared the sentence of Ogé infamous and void. It granted to the Mulattoes a voice, "consultative et deliberative," in all the assemblies; a perfect equality between them and the Whites; and bound the Whites to observe, without restriction, all laws passed by the national assembly. It stipulated for an oblivion of the past, and an engagement, on the part of the Whites, to admit in full force the national decree of the 15th of May.

On the 20th of September, the general assembly at Cape François issued a proclamation, declaring that they would not oppose the operation of that decree, and announced an intention to grant considerable indulgencies towards such free people of colour as were not comprehended in it, meaning those who were born of enslaved parents. They also voted the formation of certain free companies of Mulattoes, wherein men of colour, of all descriptions, should be allowed to serve as commissioned officers.

These concessions produced only a temporary truce; disappointed pride, anger, malice, hatred, and revenge, were burning in the gloomy minds of all parties.

While the justice and necessity of the decree were acknowledged, and its faithful observance promised by the colonial assembly, the national assembly in the mother country voted in a large majority, on the 24th of September, for its repeal.

Doubts had already risen in the minds of the Mulattoes concerning the good faith of the Whites with respect to the concordat, and they had insisted on a renewal and confirmation of its provisions, which was granted on the 11th of October; but no sooner was authentic information received of the proceedings in France, in the repeal of the decree, than all trust and confidence, and every hope of reconciliation vanished for ever. The Mulattoes were not to be persuaded that the planters were innocent and ignorant of the transaction: they publicly declared, that either themselves or the Whites must be utterly exterminated — there was no alternative. In the western and southern provinces they flew to arms,

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 85, 86. 97, 98.

and a body of them became masters of Port St. Louis. Port-au-Prince had been reinforced by some troops from Europe, who drove the revolters from the city with great slaughter: they, however, before their retreat, set fire to it—more than one-third of the buildings were destroyed in the conflagration.

In this war of extermination, there was a diabolical emulation which party could inflict the most abominable cruelties on the other.[1] In the district of the Cul de Sac, an engagement took place, in which the Negroes, being ranged in front, and acting without discipline, left 2000 dead on the field. Fifty Mulattoes were killed, and several taken prisoners. Every refinement in cruelty that the most depraved imagination could suggest was practised on these wretched men. One of the Mulatto leaders was among the number. The victors placed him on an elevated seat in a cart, and secured him in it by driving large spiked nails through his feet into the boards: his bones were afterwards broken, and he was thrown alive into the flames.

Just before Christmas, Mirbeck, Roome, and St. Leger, three commissioners nominated by the national assembly for St. Domingo, arrived at Cape François. Military honors were shewn them, and they were led in public procession to the cathedral.

Their first proceeding, after announcing the new constitution for the mother country, was to publish the decree of the 24th of September, by which the decree of the 15th of May was annulled. In a few days they proclaimed a general amnesty and pardon to such

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 99. 110.

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[1] "Amidst these scenes of horror, one instance, however, occurs of such fidelity and attachment in a Negro as is equally unexpected and affecting. Monsieur and Madame Baillon, their daughter and son-in-law, and two white servants, residing on a mountain-plantation about thirty miles from Cape François, were apprised of the revolt by one of their own slaves, who was himself in the conspiracy, but promised, if possible, to save the lives of his master and his family. Having no immediate means of providing for their escape, he conducted them into an adjacent wood; after which he went and joined the revolters. The following night he found an opportunity of bringing them provisions from the rebel camp. The second night he returned again with a further supply of provisions, but declared that it would be out of his power to give them any further assistance. After this they saw nothing of the Negro for three days; but at the end of that time he came again, and directed the family how to make their way to a river which led to Port Margot, assuring them they would find a canoe on a part of the river he described, they followed his directions, found the canoe, and got safely into it, but were overset by the rapidity of the current, and, after a narrow escape, thought it best to return to their retreat in the mountains. The Negro, anxious for their safety, again found them out, and directed them to a broader part of the river, where he assured them he had provided a boat, but said it was the last effort he could make to save them. They went accordingly, but not finding the boat, gave themselves up for lost; when the faithful Negro again appeared, like their guardian angel. He brought with him pigeons, poultry, and bread, and conducted the family by slow marches in the night along the banks of the river, until they were within sight of the wharf at Port Margot, when, telling them they were entirely out of danger, he took his leave for ever, and went to join the rebels. The family were in the woods nineteen nights."

Edwards, vol. iii. p. 80.

people, of all descriptions, as should lay down their arms, and within a certain time take the oaths required. A general amnesty to revolted slaves was considered by the Whites as a justification of their enormities, and a dangerous example to such Negroes as had been faithful. They published also the decrees for an equality of rights and of ranks, and the planters did not conceal their dissatisfaction.

The deputies of the colonial corps, instead of wearing the national colours when they waited upon the commissioners, wore black scarfs, as a sign of the general grief of the inhabitants; and those of the provincial assembly wore red scarfs, emblematic of the blood which had been shed. They insinuated, in their address, that a great part of their miseries was owing to the intrigues of what they termed a pernicious society, who neither understood the true interests of France or of her colonies. They declared openly against the measures, and begged that they might not be forced to consent to them.

The commissioners had not a sufficient force to compel obedience, and the disagreement between them and the colonial assembly palsied the efforts of both parties. Nevertheless, a negociation was opened with the Negroes, and an exchange of prisoners effected. Jean François consented to attend a conference with the commissioners, to arrange the conditions of a general agreement. The interview took place in the evening at St. Michael, near Petite Anse. The Negro general professed the most pacific sentiments, and knelt before the commissioners, who raised him up, embraced him, invited him to remain for at least that night in the house, and offered to deliver hostages for his safety. He refused to remain, but promised to return the next day for a second interview. He never returned—his troops had their liberty, and the power of keeping it appeared every day easier: they obliged him to break off the conference. The royalists were also suspected of advising it. The "aide-major" of the cape regiment was seen, the night after the interview, by some white prisoners, in the Negro general's camp at Tannerie, and was known to have remained there great part of the night.

Four hundred and fifty-five thousand Negroes belonged to the French part of St. Domingo this year.

The number of baptized Negroes, under the care of the Moravian missionaries in Barbadoes, consisted of forty-four adults and three children.

Mr. Montgomery, the Moravian missionary at Tobago, having lost his wife, seeing no fruit of his labours, and being ill of a dysentery, returned to Barbadoes in March: and thus ended the Moravian mission in Tobago.

Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 142. 144. 146. Edwards, vol. iii. p. 213.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 133. 177.

There were 250,000 Negro slaves in Jamaica, 1400 Maroons, 10,000 people of colour and free Negroes, and 30,000 Whites.

On the 2d of February, a turtler belonging to Montego Bay, Jamaica, was upset in a gale of wind. Captain Samuel Hood, of his Majesty's ship Juno, went in his barge, and saved the lives of three of the crew. One man had been drowned before Captain Hood came up with her. The danger of the attempt was such, that some of the boat's crew hesitated when ordered into the boat. Captain Hood set them the example, saying, " I never gave an order to a sailor in my life, which I was not ready to undertake and execute myself."

The house of assembly at Jamaica, the next day, " Resolved, *nem. con.*, that the receiver-general do forthwith remit to the agent of this island the sum of 100 guineas, for the purchase of a sword, to be presented to Captain Samuel Hood of his Majesty's ship Juno, as a testimony of the high sense which this house entertains of his merit in saving (at the manifest peril of his own life, in a violent gale of wind off the port of St. Ann, on the 2d instant) the lives of three men discovered on a wreck at sea, and who must inevitably have perished, but for his gallant and humane exertions."

Captain M. Russell, in his Majesty's ship Diana, was off Montego Bay, Jamaica, the 1st of November, when the inhabitants apprehended a rising among the Negroes. The committee of safety at St. James sent off to say, they intended to salute the frigate with twenty-one guns, and requested Captain Russell to return the salute with as many as the rules of the service would admit, for the purpose of giving satisfaction to the Whites, and to deter the Blacks from attempts to disturb the public peace.

At day-break, the 21st of June, it began to rain near the Havaña, which continued till half-past two in the afternoon of the following day, with such force as to cause the greatest flood ever remembered in that country. The royal tobacco mills, and the village in which they stood, were washed away, and 257 of the inhabitants killed. In the spot where the mills stood, the water, or a partial earthquake, opened the ground to the depth of forty-five feet, and in one of the openings a river appeared of the purest water. Where the Count Baretto's house stood, was a cavity more than sixty feet deep, from which a thick smoke rose.

Four leagues from thence, the torrent was so great, that none of the inhabitants within its reach escaped. All the crops of corn and growing fruits were carried away.

Three thousand persons, and 11,700 head of cattle, are said to have perished in the flood.

August the 13th, William Woodley, Esq. was appointed governor of the Leeward Caribee islands.

Edwards, vol. i. p. 284. Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. pp. 6. 453.
Annual Register, 1791, pp. 44. 62.

Chief Justice Ottley of St. Vincent, in his examination by the House of Commons, stated, that the slaves in St. Vincent were never married, and that he knew of no law to prevent a woman being taken from the man with whom she lived, and debauched by a white person. He did not recollect any cases of the kind happening, but they might have done so without his knowledge. It is clear, for the reason he himself assigns, that the domestic happiness of the slaves may have been violated to any extent, without his *judicial* knowledge.

By an act of Jamaica, passed this year, the testimony of slaves was admitted, without reserve, against the free Maroons of that island. "The enslaved Negroes, who had often, pursuant to legal requisition and encouragement, been seized and brought home, when fugitives, by these active mountaineers, had certainly here a fair invitation to revenge."

The congregation of Moravians at Basse Terre, St. Christopher's, consisted of "624 souls, besides many new people, who came to beg for baptism."

In the three Danish islands, the want of rain, which had prevailed there for about four years, killed great numbers of the Negroes. From Easter 1790 to Easter 1791, above 240 Negroes were baptised by the Methodists, and upwards of 200 were added to the communicants in that island. The whole number under the care of the missionaries in the three islands was about 8000.

At the close of this year, the two Moravian congregations in Antigua, at Gracehill and St. John's, consisted of upwards of 7400 persons, besides a great number of new people, who constantly attended public worship. The number of missionaries on the island was only five.

Henry Botham, Esq. stated, when examined, that "the slaves in the French islands appeared to be better clothed, better fed, and better behaved, than in the British; and their being well fed is chiefly owing to the French planter putting a great proportion of his estate in provisions."

The British West India islands (Mr. Irving stated) produce annually a greater quantity of sugar and rum than is requisite for the consumption of Great Britain and her immediate dependencies. The extension of the culture of those islands beyond what is necessary for that supply, is not likely to promote the interests of the British empire, because the French sugars are sold by the planters 20 or 30 per cent. cheaper than the British sugars could be purchased in our islands. And it is unwise to push forward by means of bounties, &c. any branch of commerce, which cannot be carried

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 161. 182.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 425.; vol. iii. pp. 53. 167.
Parliamentary Papers, 1791, Examination of Henry Botham, Esq.
Minutes reported to the House, April 7, 1791, Mr. Irving's Examination.

on within 15 per cent. of the prices of other rival countries. The money expended upon West India estates in general does not leave the owner, even after a good crop, more than 6 per cent. If sufficient land was cultivated to supply the Negroes with provisions, it would be attended with advantage to the planters themselves — slaves might be bred to keep up the stock, and the little slaves from seven years and upwards might be useful."

Such were Mr. Irving's opinions when examined before a Committee of the House of Commons.

1792.

Translation of an Edict of the King of Denmark, for the Abolition of the Slave Trade carried on by his Subjects; dated at Copenhagen, 16*th March*, 1792.

" We, Christian the Seventh, by the Grace of God, King of Denmark and Norway, &c. &c., do hereby make known, that, in consideration of the circumstances attending the slave trade on the coast of Guinea, and the transporting of Negroes, purchased there, to our West India islands; as well as, likewise, because it fully appears that it would be good and serviceable if the carrying of Negroes from Guinea could be avoided, and that our West India islands, in time, could be cultivated by labourers born and trained up on the same, who from their youth might be used to the work, the climate, and their employers — we have caused investigations to be made as to the manner, and how soon, a regulation hereof might be accomplished.

" And, in consequence, it appears, beyond a doubt, that it may be rendered possible, as well as beneficial, for our West India islands to do without the purchase of Negroes, after the plantations have been stocked with a sufficient number; a suitable assistance in this case to be made to such of the planters as may stand in need thereof, and due care to be taken to promote marriages between the Negroes, and moral instruction.

" In order, therefore, to do away the improprieties that are and have been annexed to our West India possessions, on account of the importation of Negroes, and to the end that the importation of Negroes may in time become altogether extinct, we do hereby make known, command, and require, for the information of every individual, that it is our gracious will, so far as relates to a part of these regulations, and which it is requisite should be immediately made known : —

" 1. With the beginning of the year 1803, that all traffic in the slave trade by our subjects shall cease on the African coasts, and

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Appendix to Seventh Report of African Institution.

elsewhere, out of our possessions in the West Indies; so that, after the expiration of the intervening time, no Negro man or woman, either on the coast or other places, must be purchased for or by any our subjects, or carried on board ships belonging to our subjects, or be imported for sale into our West India islands; and every transaction to the contrary, or against this interdiction, shall, after the above time, be deemed illegal.

"2. In the intervening time, from the present to that of the end of the year 1802, it shall be allowed to all nations, without exception, and under all flags, to import from the coast into our West India islands, male and female Negroes.

"3. For the healthy male and female Negroes that shall be imported during the aforesaid time into our West India islands, we do hereby allow, that within one year of their being imported, the following quantities of raw sugar may be exported from the islands to other places in or out of Europe, either in our own or foreign ships, viz. for every full-grown male or female Negro, 2000 lbs.; and for every half-grown the one half thereof, viz. 1000 lbs. without exception in respect to sexes; but for the children nothing.

"4. The duty on the importation of slaves fixed by the edict of the 9th of April, 1764, and the 12th of May, 1777, we graciously set aside as to the female Negroes that shall hereafter be imported; and, on the contrary, an additional one half per cent. over and above the present duty, shall be paid on all such sugars as shall be exported to foreign places, in return for male and female Negroes imported.

"5. We further declare it our will, that in regard to a proper conduct between the two sexes, the kop tax for female Negroes, and girls who work in the plantations, and are not house Negroes, shall cease from and after the beginning of the year 1795; but this tax, for the said time, shall be doubled for all plantation Negro men.

"6. The exportation of male and female Negroes from our West India islands is strongly prohibited from this time forward, such being excepted from the prohibition as the laws require to quit the same, and likewise such as, in very scarce instances, it may be deemed proper, by our governors-general and government in the West India islands, to suffer to leave the same.

"According to which, all and every one have to regulate themselves."

The average of the expences of the government of the island of Cuba, between the years 1788 and 1792, was 1,826,000 piastres, distributed in the following manner:—

	Piastres.
For Santiago de Cuba - - - - -	146,000
For the Havaña - - - - -	290,000

Humboldt's New Spain, vol. iv. p. 234.

	Piastres.
Marine expences - - - - -	740,000
For keeping the fortifications of the Havaña in repair	150,000
" Purchase money of tobacco from the island of Cuba, which goes into Spain" - - -	500,000

The average, for the same time, for Porto Rico, was	377,000
For Trinidad - - - -	200,000
For the Spanish part of St. Domingo - -	274,000

Upon the 14th of January, Fort Dauphin was surprised by the Mulattoes, and the garrison massacred. All the white inhabitants of Ouanaminte shared the same fate, and in the morning the place was set on fire. At the same time all the sugar-works in the parish, and in Maribarou, canes, mills, and buildings, all were burnt. From six o'clock until noon the fires were blazing.

M. Thouzard, the commandant, was suspected of betraying the fort into their hands, as part of a plan of the royalists to raise the Blacks against the republicans.

At Petit Goave, in St. Domingo, the Mulattoes were masters, and held in confinement thirty four white persons, whom they reserved for vengeance. On the publication of the amnesty, they led them to execution — each was broken alive upon the wheel; and in the midst of their tortures, the Mulattoes read the proclamation aloud, affecting to consider it as a pardon for the cruelties they were then committing.

In a letter which was sent from the colony to their deputies to the legislative assembly in Paris, it was stated, " That the people of colour wore the ears of the Whites in their hats instead of cockades; that for their colours they carried a white infant, impaled upon a pike; that they had torn children from their mothers' womb, and given them to the pigs; that they had forced a husband to eat his wife's flesh, after killing her before him; and lastly, that they had sunk a vessel laden with white women, who were trying to escape."

The commissioners returned separately to France in March and April. Roome was the only one who during their stay had conducted himself with respectability.

In the northern province, the rebel Negroes having destroyed all the provisions on the plain of the Cape, took possession of the surrounding mountains, where they planted provisions by the directions of Jean François.

On the 4th of April, the legislative assembly in France published a decree, containing eleven articles. They declared, that the people of colour and free Negroes in the colonies ought to enjoy an equality of political rights with the Whites; and decreed, that the inhabitants

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Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 105. 151.
Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 110, 111, 112, 113.

of the French colonies should proceed to the re-election of colonial and parochial assemblies — that the people of colour and free Negroes should be admitted to vote in all primary and electoral assemblies, and be eligible to all places of trust, provided they possessed certain specified qualifications — and that three commissioners should be named for St. Domingo, and four for the other islands, with power to call forth the public force whenever they may think it necessary, either for their own protection, or to enforce the execution of their orders.

The colonial assemblies were to send home delegates, in such proportions as the national assembly should determine.

The commissioners named for St. Domingo were Messrs. Santhonax, Polverel, and Ailhaud: they landed at Cape François on the 13th of September, with 6000 soldiers, immediately dissolved the colonial assembly, and sent M. Blanchelande, the governor, a state prisoner to France, where he was guillotined on the 7th of April, 1793.

The commissioners declared that they had no intention to change the system of government concerning the slaves. This was done to pacify the Whites, who found out that the commissioners held secret communications with the chiefs of the Mulattoes in all parts of the colony, by whose assistance they were soon strong enough to avow themselves openly the protectors of the whole body of free Negroes and Mulattoes. They now seized the persons and effects of all the Whites who opposed their projects, and sent a great number prisoners to Europe. They then nominated six members of the last assembly, and six Mulattoes, to raise money from the inhabitants, reserving to themselves the right of expending it.

The new governor, M. Desparbes, complained that he was a mere cypher or tool in the commissioners' hands.

Upon the 12th of October, the commissioners deprived M. Desparbes of his commission as general, and banished him aboard the ships. Six days afterwards, the general, M. de Cambefort, and the other officers of the line, endeavoured to effect the same with the commissioners, and to send them to France.

On the morning of the 19th of October, the soldiers having made their dispositions for the attack, ranged their troops in the Champ-de-Mars, close to the barracks. The commissioners assembled their troops and the militia in the Place d'Armes, in the centre of the town; and, masters of the arsenal, they had two heavy guns placed at the entrance of the two streets which led from the barracks, and from the Champ-de-Mars. The conflict was short: the general's troops of the line refused to act, except a party of yellow dragoons, commanded by M. Cagnon. These were attacked by the red dragoons and the dragoons d'Orleans, and dispersed; their commander was killed.

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 114. 116, 117. 118, 119. Soirées Bermudiennes, p. 180.

This finished the quarrel. The victorious commissioners, that same evening, shipped off MM. de Cambefort and de Thouzard, almost all the officers of the regiment du Cap, and some of the inhabitants of the city, in all about fifty persons, and thus got clear of the leading royalists.

Two members out of the six Whites that composed the moiety of the " commission intermediaire," met with similar treatment. They opposed M. Santhonax on a measure of finance: he commended their frankness, and invited them to supper; but, at the hour appointed, they were seized, and conveyed, as state prisoners, on board a ship, and sent to Europe. The ship was taken on her passage by an English frigate, and brought to England.

Ailhaud, not agreeing with the other commissioners, quitted the colony. Santhonax and Polverel, by bestowing largesses on the troops, and the assistance of the revolted inhabitants, became masters of the colony. The dreadful scenes which were passing in the mother country enabled these men to prosecute their purposes without controul.

" Your greatest enemies (said the commissioners in their proclamation of the 27th of October), were in the midst of you. They are so no longer — you see yourselves delivered from them for ever. Those who had excited or protected the revolt of the slaves — those who had murdered your fathers, your brothers, your wives, your children, burnt and destroyed your properties — those who charged to direct the public force against the brigands, have turned it against yourselves — those who disclosed the secret of your numbers, of your weakness — the place, the day, the moment of the marching, and of the intended attacks — who indicated the circumstances which were favourable for them to advance or to remain quiet — those who distributed to these brigands the arms, ammunition, and provision destined for your defence — those who have occasioned the death of three fourths of the troops sent to your assistance, either by the unhealthiness of their stations, or by their inactivity, or by rashly exposing them to the sword of the enemy — those who left the camps for whole weeks, without one order — those who have so long increased the disputes and so long blown the fire of civil war among the different classes of free men, and who at last would have armed you one against another, because we would have united you all, " au centre d'unité " — these men are no more !" &c.

M. de Rochambeau was appointed general of St. Domingo, and a plan for a general attack upon the rebels was formed. Leveaux had the command in the north, M. de Montesquiou Fezensac in the south, with whom Polverel proceeded to the west, for all the attacks to be made at the same time.

One body of troops, after they had carried the post La Tannerie,

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 119, 120. Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 182, 183 was to enter the quarter of the Grande Riviere, and clear that long pass, as well as St. Suzanne, of the Blacks and Mulattoes. At the same time, M. de Rochambeau was to enter the east side, after retaking Ouanaminte, and the other lesser posts, and ascend into the district of Valiere, join his troops to those which would enter by the Grande Riviere, and with their united force free the interior of the Negroes. Between these two principal corps, attacking the two extremities, the smaller ones, in the middle, posted at the foot of the mountains De Trou, were also to ascend and push the Negroes from that side.

The success of the plan was complete in the east. Ouanaminte, and various other posts, were rapidly carried; but M. Dussas, after having got possession of Morne Pélé, was forced to abandon it the next day, the 12th of November.

Upon the 31st of December, the municipality at the Cape ordered, that all persons who should arrive at that port, suspected of emigrating, should be arrested and sent back to France.

Captain Russell, in his Majesty's ship Diana, was off Aux Cayes on the 17th of February, when he received the following letter from Billard, the president of the provincial assembly:—

"February 17, 1792 — Midnight.

"Captain Russell will perceive by the freedom of this short note, that I wish him to feel perfectly at liberty on the question which I have the honour to propose to him. Will he assist us with his marines in a sortie which we are about to make in an hour or two against the brigands? I repeat he is at full liberty in his answer. Our forces are at present far from numerous; and, though each is anxious to exert himself, we want strength. Answer immediately: pardon for the interruption of sleep. In this case Captain Russell would not find it prejudicial to lend Englishmen to combat a horde that might one day disturb Jamaica. The provincial assembly will request it of him in form. I have the honour to wish him a good night, and to be his very humble servant, BILLARD."

To this cool request Captain Russell returned the following answer:—

"Diana, Aux Cayes, February 17, 1792,
Half-past twelve at night.

"SIR,

"Few things would give me more pleasure than a prompt compliance with all your desires. I feel a proportionate degree of pain, that in the present instance I cannot, consistently with my duty as a British officer, comply with your request. It would be

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Soirées Bermudiennes, p. 179. Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 457.

a most flagrant violation of the laws of nations to employ His Britannic Majesty's forces in an hostile manner against any description of the subjects of France.

" I am, Sir, with great respect,
" Your obedient and humble servant,
" T. M. Russell.

" To M. Billard,
" President of the Colonial Assembly."

At a public dinner which was given by the assembly to Captain Russell, he represented to them that there was a Lieutenant Perkins, of the royal navy, confined in a dungeon at Jeremie under the pretext of his having supplied the people of colour with arms. Captain Russell said he had satisfied himself of his innocence — that he had undergone nothing like a legal process, a thing impossible from the suspension of their ordinary courts of justice, owing to the divided and distracted state of the colony; and yet he lay under sentence of death. " Grant me his life," said Captain Russell — " do not suffer these people to be guilty of the murder of an innocent man, by which they will drag down British vengeance upon the whole island."

The assembly promised that he should be released. Captain Russell sent Mr. Pipon for the order, which was refused — " as it was a promise made after dinner, they did not think it binding." At this time his Majesty's sloop Ferret, Captain Nowell, hove in sight. She had been at Jeremie with dispatches, containing requests from Lord Effingham and Admiral Affleck, that Lieutenant Perkins might be delivered up, which the assembly there, by the following communication, refused; adding verbally, that the imperative voice of the law called for his execution: —

The Council of Commons of Jeremie to Captain Nowell, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's brig the Ferret.

" Sir — However agreeable it has been for us to have you amongst us, our desire would have been not to retard your voyage to the Cayes: our occupations alone have been the cause of your staying here twenty-four hours longer than you intended.

" The law imperiously commands us to retain Mr. Perkins, and to send him to the colonial assembly.

" We are,
" Your obedient and most humble servant,
" Plique,
" Jeremie, 16th Feb. 1792." " President du Conseil."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 457.

Captain Russell immediately proceeded to Jeremie, and sent Captain Nowell on shore with the following letter:—

"His Majesty's ship Diana, off Jeremie,
Feb. 24, 1792.

"Sir,

"I applied to the provisional assembly at Aux Cayes for the liberation of Lieutenant John Perkins, of His Britannic Majesty's royal navy, and my application was immediately and of course complied with. M. Billard, the president, promised me an order to your assembly to deliver him up to me. That order had not arrived at L'Isle de Vache, where I lay, before I sailed, which must be no impediment to your sending him off to me in safety immediately. If, however, it should unfortunately be otherwise, let it be remembered that I do hereby, in the most formal and solemn manner, demand him. Captain Nowell knows my resolution in case of the least hesitation.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient humble servant,
"T. M. Russell,
"Captain of the Diana.

"To M. Plique,
"President of the Council at Jeremie."

Captain Nowell, on landing, was surrounded by a mob. The president read the letter, and said, "Sir, suppose I do not?"— "In that case," replied Captain Nowell, "you draw down a destruction you are little aware of. Captain Russell has allowed sixty minutes for you to decide — you see, sir, thirty of them are elapsed." Some one present said, "You shall have him, but it shall be in quarters." Captain Nowell drew his sabre, and said to the president, "Sir, order that fellow out of my sight, or he dies." The president did so, and after some further conversation Perkins was led from his dungeon and released. At the door of the prison the rack was placed, on which the next morning he was to have been tortured.

On the 2d of March, the council and assembly of Jamaica re-enacted their consolidation act, or slave code, which they always do in an original form, as if there were no preceding law existing on the subject; and on every successive call by the House of Commons this ponderous often-seen act is transmitted at full length, so that any amendments can only be ascertained by a laborious collation with the former ones. If the new enactments alone were returned, large sums of the public money would be saved, and how far they had attended to the wishes of parliament be more easily known. Mr. Bryan Edwards boasted that this act had secured as great a latitude of enjoyment and comfort to the slaves as could be done with safety; and the assembly afterwards, in a report of 1799, say, that every thing possible has been done to render the condition of the slaves as favourable as is consistent with their reasonable ser-

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 107.

vices and the safety of the Whites; but by the tenth section of this ultimate and perfect work, in no other case but that of "very atrocious mutilations" is a power given to any court to deliver a slave cruelly treated from the convicted master. Various other cruel practices are prohibited by special descriptions under small penalties; but on every other conviction than that for "very atrocious cases of mutilation," the slave *must*, and even in those cases might go back to his brutal master: and if the cruel treatment was inflicted by any other person than the *owner* of the slave, the remedy would not apply. Now, as comparatively few owners reside in the colonies, if the manager, overseer, lessee, or mortgagee in possession did it, the poor slave must return to his oppressor, to expiate, by numberless inflictions of which the laws do not even affect to take cognizance, the offence of having complained to a magistrate, or been the cause of his master's conviction.

But if it should appear to the magistrates that the complaint was groundless, they may punish the complainant (by the Jamaica act of 1816) *in such manner as to them may seem proper.*

A West India slave, strictly speaking, has no civil rights whatever, for he has no civil character or personality. By the black act of this country, the malicious killing, maiming, or wounding of cattle is a capital felony, but the cattle have not therefore civil rights; the crime consists in the injury done to the master's property, or to public morals, or to the police and good order of the state, not in the violation of any right of the sufferer.

A slave cannot maintain any suit or action whatever, either in his own name or by guardian. He cannot contract or be contracted with; he cannot make assignment, bequest, gift, or other disposition of property, whereby a title may be created to things incorporeal. A promissory note or bond made to a Negro slave would have as much legal effect as if the payee or obligee were a horse or a spaniel. Before the Negroes can be efficaciously protected, the local laws relative to evidence must be altered. Their only legal protection is either by the action or suit of the master, or by indictment or other prosecution at the suit of the crown. Personal injuries received by him from strangers of free condition may be the subject of a suit by his master, precisely as the law of England allows in respect of horses or cattle. It is protection only to the property which the master has in his slave's person.

By the sixteenth section of the act of Jamaica, vestries may impose taxes on the parishioners for the support of manumitted Negroes and Mulattoes, when disabled by sickness or age. In some of the acts it is expressly recited, that manumissions were often fraudulent on the part of the master, their object being to avoid the charge of supporting infirm slaves. If a master wished

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 130. 135. 140. 395.

to withhold subsistence from his disabled slave, a fraudulent manumission would be perfectly needless; for he might much more privately famish him in his servile state, by confining him to the plantation, where he could neither be a prosecutor or a witness.

The ruinous nature of the sugar cultivation is proved by the reports of the insular assemblies. In the course of twenty years, ending this year, one hundred and seventy-seven estates in Jamaica were sold for the payment of debts; fifty-five estates thrown up; and ninety-two were then (November 23d, 1792) in the hands of creditors. During the same period, 80,021 executions, amounting to above £22,500,000 sterling, had been lodged in the provost-marshal's office.

Previous to the execution of a slave, he is appraised, and the value, not exceeding a limited sum, is allowed and paid to his owner out of the public treasury of the island.—(See sect. 56, act of Jamaica this year.) But in Barbadoes, and some other colonies, it is provided by law, that the party injured by the crime shall first be indemnified out of the sum so allowed, to the extent of the damage sustained.

The reason given for this regulation is, that masters, if not indemnified for the loss of their property, would not give up their slaves to public justice, but rather assist them in escaping from it, when accused of capital crimes. This remuneration is injurious in two ways. Were the master's self-interest engaged, he would employ a counsel or solicitor to defend the slave, who, from his ignorance and helplessness, is unable to defend himself. The natural order of things by which men in superior private relations become in some measure pledges to society for the good conduct of their families, is also weakened thereby. The crime of the slave is often the inevitable fruit of the master's oppression, in "not allowing them," as the act recites, "time to plant or provide for themselves, for which cause such Negroes or other slaves are necessitated to commit crimes." — "And yet the safety of this island (Barbadoes) requiring that such Negroes and other slaves shall suffer as the law has appointed," therefore such masters whose neglect of feeding causes the slaves to be guilty of such crimes are not "to be countenanced therein at the charge of the public," and the treasurer of the island is only to pay the damage to the party injured, and nothing to the master. Here we have men starving, not from idleness, but because their master works them too closely to allow them time to provide for themselves; so that the only alternatives left the slave, is to starve, or be hanged. There is no punishment awarded for the master; but "he is not to be countenanced therein at the charge of the public," and that is all.

This law of Barbadoes was passed in 1688, re-enacted without

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 323. 475.

any amendment as to these objectionable clauses in 1739, and is, Mr. Stephen says in 1824, "probably still unrepealed."

In this pitiable case of involuntary crime, the legislature, by directing the execution immediately to follow the sentence, shuts out the possibility of pardon: the prosecutor having a private interest in the execution of the criminal, the granting a pardon without his consent might be a matter of some embarrassment, and by the act he had a legal right to insist on the execution of the sentence. In every case, however deserving of mercy, he was to receive part of the price of blood, and therefore might demand its effusion.

Dr. Coke returned again to Jamaica. "But the persecution (he says) which we have experienced in this place, far, very far, exceeds all the persecutions that we have met with in the other islands, unitedly considered. Mr. Hammett's life was frequently endangered. Mr. Bull several times narrowly escaped being stoned to death, particularly one night, when he eluded the vigilance of the rioters by being disguised in a suit of regimentals.

"We forbear to record specific instances of brutality and wickedness, or to mention the names of those whose sons shall blush their fathers were our foes.

"To depart from persecution, was to flee from duty; and to apply for justice, was but another name for sustaining wrong. To abandon the chapel altogether, was to expose it to ruin and demolition; and to persevere in the usual course, was to endanger life. To quit the scene of action was to give up the contest, and to arm those by whom we were oppressed with that victory for which they had been contending, and which would become a formidable weapon on a future day." Mr. Hammett was obliged to refrain from preaching by candle-light.

Dr. Coke, however, on the first evening of his arrival, ventured to open the chapel again for preaching by candle-light, and had a numerous audience; but some of them, he says, *were very rude.* The following is his report of his proceedings in Spanish Town:

"In the evening I appeared in the long-room of the tavern, according to permission, having previously sent notice round the town. When I entered, I found it nearly filled by the young bucks and bloods (as we used to term the debauchees at Oxford), and not a single lady was present: soon afterwards, many of the coloured people, of both sexes, came and filled the vacant places. During my sermon the bucks behaved so rudely, that I observed, before I concluded, that if any house-keeper would lend me a hall, I would preach again the next evening; otherwise, I should probably be obliged to leave the place. 'Farewell, sir!' said one; 'Good luck to you, sir!' said another: and thus they went on, till

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Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 421.

I withdrew. When Mr. Brazier and I consulted together on the subject, we were fully persuaded, from the countenances and behaviour of the coloured people, that the Redeemer's kingdom might be enlarged by preaching the gospel to them, and that we ought not by any means to give up the point. Before bed-time, two gentlemen came to me at my lodging, and offered me their halls to preach in; but, alas! when I called on them the next morning, they had been frightened by their friends, and both of them retracted their engagements. We were then determined to move on the true gospel plan, 'from the least to the greatest.' Accordingly, we hired a poor cheap house (if it may be called by so lofty a name), in the outskirts of the town, of a Mulatto, from month to month. Here I preached in the evening to a considerable number of the people of colour; and, notwithstanding the poverty of the place, some of the bucks attended, and were ruder, if possible, than the night before. During the height of the noise, I felt a spirit which I think I never felt before, at least in the same degree — I believe it was a spark of the proper spirit of martyrdom. At the conclusion, therefore, of a pointed though short address to the rioters, I told them I was willing, yea, desirous, if the kingdom of Jesus could be promoted thereby, to suffer martyrdom; and my words seemed to have a considerable effect on their minds."

A few days afterwards, Dr. Coke preached at Port Royal, in the house of Mr. Fishley. "There had been some persecution in this place, many of the outrageous in Kingston having agreed to assassinate Mr. Hammett here; but the magistrates behaved with such spirit and intrepidity, that the persecutors were glad to hide their heads."

Dr. Coke sailed in a few days for South Carolina, leaving 234 in the society of Methodists in the whole circuit, which was an increase of eighty-four since the last accounts were made up.

From Easter 1791 to Easter 1792, 640 Negroes were baptized in Antigua by the Moravian missionaries.

In 1792, upon the average of four years, Antigua produced and exported only 3900 hhds. of sugar.

The national assembly of France passed a decree of thanks to the King of Great Britain, to the English nation, and to Lord Effingham, the governor of Jamaica, for his generous conduct, in relieving the planters of St. Domingo from the horrors of famine, and in furnishing them with arms and military stores against the rebel Negroes.

The West India merchants voted £500 to Captain Bligh, of the navy, for his services while on the West India station.

In February, Flora Gale, aged 120 years, died at Savannah-la-Mer, in Jamaica: she retained all her faculties till within three

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Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 425.; vol. ii. p. 426.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 19. Annual Register, 1793, pp. 5. 17. 125.

days of her death. There was not a house in that town when she came to the parish. She was a free black woman, but would never be baptized, because there might be a dance at her funeral.

General Mathews, the governor of Grenada, conceived so favourable an opinion of Mr. Owens, the Methodist missionary to that island, that he offered him the vacant living of Cariacow, if he would go to England and be ordained by the Bishop of London. "But Mr. Owens (Dr. Coke says), influenced by a sense of duty, with all the fortitude of a man of God, nobly declined the offer, and chose to continue a poor dependant Methodist preacher." The living of Cariacow was worth about £800 currency per annum.

The Moravian missionaries report, that "their chapel was well filled with Negroes every Sunday. Thirteen adults had been baptized, and ten had been added to the number of their communicants, in the preceding year."

This year, the Moravian missionaries at St. Christopher's added 335 Negroes to their congregation by baptism, or by admission to their class of candidates for it.

The Moravian Missionary's Account of a Flood at St. Christopher's.

"St. Kitt's, April 11, 1792.

"By this opportunity I send you an account of the dismal situation into which this island, and in particular the town of Basse Terre, has suddenly been thrown.

"Ever since Palm Sunday, we have had at times smart showers of rain. In the night a strong wind arose, with repeated violent gusts of flying showers, which lasted till morning. Towards noon it rained much, and great quantities of water flowed down College-street. At two, it began to lighten and thunder; and the stream increased, so that it spread as far as our new wall: and about eight in the evening, the rain grew more violent. Between nine and ten, we heard much noise. I went into the garden, and heard distinctly the cries and shrieks of the poor Negroes opposite to us; for the waters coming across Mr. L's cane-lands, had passed through their huts. I would gladly have gone to their assistance, but could not; for the current was very rapid and the water higher than our walled fence. I called upon the Lord to have mercy upon them; but, soon after, saw the Negro houses carried away, with their inhabitants.

"As I went to our burying-ground, I perceived that about fifty feet in length of the wall, from the corner below the gate, was washed away, the planks of the remaining part torn off, and the strong cedar posts bending towards the street. The ground within the wall, to the depth of five or six feet, was washed out, and carried away. It was now between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, and I went in to inform the sisters how things appeared; we

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 72. 133.; vol. iii. pp. 51. 54.

then prayed to our Heavenly Father to help us in our distress. We soon felt comforted; and presently after, the violence of the rain abated. At six in the morning, a few people who had escaped the danger came to our church, to pray the Easter litany. Having sung a hymn, we kneeled down, thanked our merciful Saviour for having protected and preserved us, prayed for the island and its inhabitants, read the history of our Lord's resurrection, and then prayed the litany in the church.

" We were soon afterwards informed of the great damage done in the town. On L.'s plantation, two women, one of whom was a candidate for baptism, with two children, were lost. A woman from W.'s estate, who had put up on L.'s for that night, with four children, her husband, and a blind woman, were all in great danger. As they stood in the water, the children cried, ' Dear Father ! dear Saviour ! hear the cry of us poor children, and help us and our mother.' God heard their cries, and preserved them.

" In College-street, the torrent carried away all the fences, walls, and steps, and in some places tore down the houses — some falling upon the inhabitants, and some being carried away with them. The water also broke into the house of one of our communicants, gained vent, and swept away two adjoining houses into the sea. In one of these was a communicant sister and her son. The parish house was broken down. The English church and the Methodist chapel were filled with mud and water. Several houses were carried into the sea, with all their furniture, and dashed to pieces. Most of the merchant's cellars were filled with water, mud, and sand; and great quantities of provisions were spoiled.

" A Mrs. T., with her house and family, was carried into the sea: she cried out, ' Lord have mercy upon me, and help me.' A Mulatto hearing her cries, ventured out, and swimming after her, caught her hair, and saved her, though she was almost dead. Her daughter's dead corpse swam by her side: her son was saved, but two of the inhabitants were lost.

" One of our people, a Mulatto woman, said, ' It is of my Saviour's mercy that my life is preserved:' and indeed the Divine mercy was signal in her behalf; for her neighbour's house was swept away, while her's was left standing, though so filled with mud and water, that her goods were spoiled.

" The strongest walls were unable to withstand the vehemence of the main current; and the oldest inhabitants cannot remember so formidable and destructive an inundation, whereby so many lives were lost.

" In the forenoon, brother Reichel returned from a visit upon Burt's plantations, after a very dangerous journey.

" In our church alone divine service could be performed, and but few attended, both in the fore and afternoon. We were thankful

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 51.

that we had so good a wall to defend our premises, otherwise we must have been overflowed, and both the house and the church would have been in danger, because the floods used generally to break in at the corner of our burying ground. We have certainly sustained some damage, but nothing in comparison with the rest of the inhabitants: however, we feel it much.

" In the town of Old Road, some houses have been washed into the sea, and on the north side much injury has been done.

" You will undoubtedly join us in thanking our gracious Lord, that our dear Negroes in the town have been so mercifully preserved — only Henrietta, a communicant, and a candidate for baptism on L.'s estate, have lost their lives. Had poor Henrietta staid in her own house, she would in all probability have been safe, for that was left standing.

" On Good Friday, previous to the calamity, our church was filled with Negroes from the country: these were very attentive, and shed many tears during the prayer with which the meeting closed. Thanks be to God! we are at present well in health, and recommend ourselves to your prayers and remembrance before the Lord.

" G. C. Schneller."

Some rum caught fire in the carenage at Grenada, by which accident the most valuable third of the town was destroyed.

In April, the King George, slave ship, was wrecked to windward of Barbadoes. Two hundred and eighty-one slaves were drowned between decks: they were in irons, and the gratings locked. The captain and crew were saved — eighty-seven women, and a man and a boy, swam on shore, and were sold.

Upon the 1st of August, several plantations at Antigua were destroyed by a hurricane — most of the other islands also suffered.

Upon the 17th of November, Ninian Hume, Esq. was appointed lieutenant-governor of Grenada.

Sugar and coffee, the produce of foreign plantations, were permitted by the English to be imported into certain of the Bahama islands, in foreign vessels, subject to regulations, by the acts 27. and 30. of the King.

The British parliament voted, that the slave trade should cease upon the 1st of January, 1796.

Fifty-five Moravians (some of whom were women) were stationed in different islands in the West Indies. Three men and their wives resided in Jamaica.

The number of slaves in Barbadoes was estimated at 65,074.

Depon says, that the Spaniards are litigious, " one would hardly

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Annual Register, 1792, pp. 29. 31. 48. — 1796, p. 181.
Colquhoun's British Empire, p. 373.
Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 408.; vol. ii. p. 122.
Depon's South America, vol. i. p. 142.

think it credible," he says, "that in the city of Havaña alone, where there was no court of appeal, there were computed to be, in 1792, seventy-two advocates, besides 34 in the other cities and villages, making 106 advocates, to a population of 254,821 souls; and the territorial exports did not amount to the value of five millions of dollars. Whilst St. Domingo, with a population of 600,060 souls, and produce to the value of twenty-seven millions of dollars, had in the two councils, and over the whole colony, but thirty-six advocates.

1793.

Upon the 21st of January, 1793, the French republicans decapitated their monarch, Louis XVI. The English government immediately dismissed the French ambassador, and commenced that long and arduous contest which terminated in the destruction of the most appalling and flagitious tyranny that ever afflicted Europe.

Upon the 1st of February, the French convention decreed a declaration of war against His Britannic Majesty and the Stadtholder of the United Provinces.

Upon the 12th of January, M. de Rochambeau was appointed general of Martinico, and quitted St. Domingo soon afterwards. M. Laveaux became general of the troops, and received fresh orders from Santhonax, to renew the general attack against the Blacks. This officer commenced his operations by attacking Morne Pélé, and the post of the Tannerie. During thirty days his success was greater than was expected. The Blacks were driven to the woods; and about the middle of February, the hopes of the Whites were raised to anticipate their complete subjugation; when an order from Santhonax to suspend their operations, and march no further, gave rise to various conjectures: his partisans attributed the cessation to the refusal of the citizens of the cape to finish the campaign. They were, however, too few to have stopped a general attack by near 12,000 troops.

The release of 500 Blacks from the prisons of the cape — the order to pull down all the gibbets — to keep only upon the defensive — the proclamation declaring that one-third of the vacancies for officers should be filled up with people of colour — the banishment of those Whites who most strenuously urged the accomplishment of the decree of the 4th of April, and the liberation of the curés of Dondon and Grande Riviere, open abettors of the revolt of the Negroes, and taken among them: all these facts made the Whites conclude that the commissioners were hostile to them, and seeking adherents among the people of colour, who were now the only per-

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Barlow's History of England, vol. v. p. 383. Soirées Bermudiennes, p. 181.

sons admitted to their table, and who were appointed to all the civil and military situations, as they became vacant.

M. Therou, commandant at Jacquesy, was ordered to quit the colony in twenty-four hours, for sending a letter to Candi, the Mulatto chief at Trou, declaring, that notwithstanding the new law, there never would exist any equality of rank between the Whites and them.

"To Candy the commissioners granted, by the treaty of union, permission to descend into the plain, and to occupy with his troops the village of Trou — to form a camp, and to fortify it: they were to be supplied with provisions and ammunition, and to remain independent of all other authority than that of their chiefs. As the Mulattoes were never called upon to act against the Blacks, the Whites felt that they were protected for the purpose of being employed against them.

A convention was also entered into with the Blacks, who were stated to be about to surrender themselves, and therefore not to be irritated by further hostilities.

Santhonax proceeded to punish the agitators, aristocrats, counter-revolutionists, and friends of the English. Upon the 4th of March, he sailed in the America, seventy-four, accompanied by two frigates, and a vessel armée-en-flûte, with troops on board, and anchored in the road of St. Marc, where he ordered the Mulattoes to seize a great number of the Whites, permitted them to plunder the houses, and banished such of the Whites as he chose. The inhabitants of Port-au-Prince saw that the storm was approaching them; for, in addition to the troops which Santhonax brought, he ordered the people of colour of the fourteen adjoining parishes to invest the city by land — at the same time he attacked it by sea. The Blacks were also again in arms, and infested the plain of the Cul de Sac.

The inhabitants of Port-au-Prince sent two deputies, the one white, the other a man of colour, to the commissioners, to request that they would enter their town without the troops. The man of colour only was admitted to an interview. The overtures were rejected; and a second embassy shared the same fate.

Upon the 5th of April, the vessels anchored before Port-au-Prince. For a week the inhabitants tried to mitigate the rigour of the commissioners, who insisted upon an unconditional surrender. Upon the 12th, the town, attacked by sea and land, was obliged to surrender at five o'clock in the evening, after having had several men killed and houses beaten down. The next day the military executions commenced. Five hundred Whites were sent on board the ships in irons, and the town was condemned to pay 450,000 livres within three days. M. Borel, who was particularly the object of their hatred, escaped from the town, with 200 Whites and 300 Negroes.

Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 201, 204.

A considerable horde of Negroes, under the command of Pierrot, a man of colour, occupied a part of the promontory of Cape François, called the Morne Rouge, and extended their position almost to the Bay of L'Acul. From these points they commanded the town, intercepted the convoys of provisions, harassed the outposts, and kept up a correspondence with the slaves in the city. Fatigued by the perpetual alarms at the out-posts, the inhabitants of the Cape prevailed upon the "commission intermediaire" to permit a general attack to be made upon the Blacks at Morne Rouge.

Notwithstanding the orders of Santhonax, who from Port-au-Prince continued to forbid Laveaux to act offensively, Laveaux commanded this sortie, which was repulsed with loss: he blamed the militia of the town — they blamed the national guards, who refused to advance during the action, complaining that they were dying of hunger, and that for the last eight months they had been without pay. The militia under Dubisson had gained some advantages in the front: but seeing the inaction of the centre under Laveaux, they regarded themselves as betrayed, and cried, "Sauve qui peut." Lieutenant-Colonel Desprez, commander of the column of mutineers, seeing the situation of the troops, blew his own brains out, exclaiming at the same time to his serjeant-major, "My friend, we are betrayed and lost!"

Each party, the colonists and republicans, accused the other of treason. With such a mutual want of confidence, they were not likely to act in concert. Soon afterwards, their mutual hatred produced more fatal effects.

Monsieur Galbaud was appointed to succeed M. Desparbes as governor of St. Domingo; he landed at Cape François on the 7th of May, at the time the commissioners were endeavouring to quell the insurrection in the western province. He was received with great acclamations, and entered on his government without opposition, declaring that he was not dependent on the commissioners, or bound to execute their proclamations. A quick interchange of letters took place between the new governor and the commissioners. He desired them to repair to the Cape, that he might communicate the instructions he had received from the executive council to them. They replied, that he was an entire stranger to them; that they had not seen any decree by which they were superseded; and that, being vested with authority to suspend or appoint a governor as they might think proper, he could only be an agent subordinate to themselves. On the 10th of June, having reduced Port-au-Prince and Jacmel, they arrived at the Cape, and were received by Galbaud with respect. A serious altercation, however, immediately took place: by an unrepealed act of the old government, no proprietor of an estate in the West Indies could be governor, and M. Galbaud was possessed of a coffee plantation in St. Domingo.

Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 207, 208. Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 121, 122.

When, therefore, he was asked why he had not acquainted the executive council with this circumstance, he was utterly disconcerted, and made no reply.

On the 13th, the commissioners ordered M. Galbaud to embark forthwith on board La Normande sloop of war, and return to France. At the same time they sent instructions to M. de la Salle, commandant at Port-au-Prince, to repair to the Cape, and receive from them, in the name of the French republic, the command of the colony. The seven following days were spent in intrigues and preparations for hostilities.

Galbaud's brother had collected, from among the inhabitants and the seamen in the harbour, a strong party to support his brother. On the 20th, the two brothers landed at the head of 1200 sailors, and, being joined by a considerable body of volunteers, proceeded immediately to the house in which the commissioners were, defended by the people of colour, a body of regulars, and one piece of cannon; the conflict was fierce and bloody, but the seamen getting possession of a wine cellar, soon became ungovernable; and the column was obliged to retire to the royal arsenal, where they remained the ensuing night unmolested. The next morning many skirmishes took place in the streets, in one of which Galbaud's brother was taken prisoner by the commissioners' troops, and in another, Galbaud's seamen took Polverel's son. The governor proposed an exchange, but Polverel rejected the offer with indignation, declaring that his son knew his duty, and was prepared to die in the service of the republic.

About three thousand revolted Negroes, commanded by a Negro chief called Macaya, whom the commissioners had called in by offering them an unconditional pardon for the past, freedom for the future, and the plunder of the city, entered the town at noon: they immediately began an indiscriminate slaughter of men, women, and children; the white inhabitants fled from all quarters to the sea-side, in hopes of finding shelter on board the ships, but a body of Mulattoes cut off their retreat, and a massacre ensued, which continued from the 21st to the evening of the 23d, when there being no more white inhabitants to murder, the Negroes set fire to the buildings, and more than half the city was consumed by the flames. Only twelve or fifteen hundred persons (the French say five thousand) are supposed to have escaped, some of whom were saved by the white soldiers.

Three hundred persons were burnt in one house; numbers of both sexes were shot as they were swimming off to the ships, and the convoy sailed for America on the same evening, filled with a miserable and destitute freight of human beings.

Some of the wretched fugitives on board an American brig, the Thomas of Boston, were detained on their passage for two days by

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 23. 123, 124, 125. 128, 129. Soirées Bermudiennes, p. 225.

an English privateer from Nassau, the Susannah, Captain Tucker, who, after plundering the French of all their remaining valuables, and of their Negroes, who had voluntarily followed them, let the vessel go.

After this triumph of the republicans, Polverel left his colleague at the cape, and went to the westward. Santhonax quitted the government house, which formerly belonged to the Jesuits, and was indefensible, and removed to Grigri, M. Bailly's house, situated within gun-shot of the town, near the little " Carenage," upon the side of the mountain facing the anchorage, and in a steep place. There was only one narrow road to it between the " Morne a Pic " and the sea. A steep path led to the house, which could only be entered by a long flight of steps. Above it the heights were inaccessible, and before the house was a large terrace, underneath which was a garden, consisting of five or six platforms, still narrower, which ended at the road. Here two brass guns were placed, and a strong guard of Blacks; and here Santhonax remained. Upon the 29th of August, he declared all the Blacks and persons of mixed blood actually in slavery free, and entitled to enjoy all the rights attached to the quality of French citizens.

Polverel had done the same to leeward by a proclamation dated the 27th of August.

All the particulars of the precipitate departure of Santhonax (the French writer says) prove that he dreaded the animosity of the Mulattoes, and dared not trust himself to the Blacks; he could not hope either for any produce in a country so ruined. He took with him all the provisions and ammunition which remained in the magazines, and all the white troops, and only white ones, who were now reduced from 15,000 men to 1000, of whom 400 were so ill, that, despairing of curing them in that country, he sent them to the United States; these were shipped without necessaries and without surgeons; several, indeed, died during the process of embarking. When these were gone, Santhonax, upon the 10th of October, sailed for Port de Paix; quitting the famous anchorage of Cape François, which used, before the revolution, to contain continually four or five hundred merchant vessels of all sizes, and leaving in it only five or six small craft belonging to the Americans.

It is more probable that Santhonax was afraid of the English.

Upon the 9th of September, Commodore J. Ford, in his Majesty's ship Europa of fifty guns, sailed from Jamaica with the expedition against St. Domingo. The troops were under the command of Colonel Whitelocke. Upon the 19th, the Europa, Le Goelan, fourteen guns, Captain T. Woolley, and Flying Fish (schooner), Lieutenant Prevost, arrived at Jeremie, and the troops were landed the ensuing morning; as the terms of capitulation had been previously arranged

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Soirées Bermudiennes, pp. 233. 235. 239.
Steele's Chronologist. Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 462.

with the council of public safety of that part of the island, they took possession of the town, forts, and harbour, without the least opposition, and the inhabitants took the oaths of allegiance. The commodore remained here but a few hours, when he sailed for Cape St. Nicholas Mole, which surrendered on similar terms on the 22d September. The parishes of St. Marc and Gonaives surrendered to Major Grant, commandant at St. Nicholas Mole, in December, and Commodore Ford blockaded Port-au-Prince.

Colonel Whitelock having been assured that 500 French, under M. Duval, would assist at the capture of Tiburon, made the attempt, but Duval and his troops did not make their appearance; the enemy were more formidable than had been represented, and Colonel Whitelock was obliged to retreat with the loss of twenty men killed and wounded.

Between seven and eight hundred men from Jamaica reinforced the British troops, and led the planters to conclude that the English would pursue the conquest of the island.

In January, his Majesty's ship Providence, Captain William Bligh, and the Assistant brig, Captain Nathaniel Portlock, arrived at Jamaica from the South Seas, having on board several hundred plants of the bread fruit tree, and a vast number of other choice and curious plants: by December, some of the bread fruit plants were upwards of eleven feet high, with leaves thirty-six inches long. The gardeners' success in cultivating them exceeded his most sanguine expectations. There had been several attempts to introduce the bread fruit tree made before, but without success.

Three hundred bread fruit plants, in excellent order, were left by Captain Bligh at Kingston, in St. Vincent's, for the purpose of being distributed among the different islands. The Providence was only twenty-seven days on her passage from St. Helena to St. Vincent's.

At Jamaica, the bread fruit plants, some of which were nearly three inches in diameter, and in high perfection, were divided by the commissioners; eighty-three to the county of Surrey, and an equal number to the county of Manchester, and the same to the county of Cornwall.

The white population in Grenada were estimated at 1000 this year.

The island of Tobago was captured by the English: it surrendered without any great struggle, on the 15th of April, to Sir John Laforey, in his Majesty's ship Trusty, of fifty guns, the Nautilus, of sixteen, the Honourable H. Powlett, and the troops under the command of Major-General Cuyler.

The Danish government allowed the free exportation of cotton from Santa Cruz, on payment of 7½ per cent. duty.

Edwards, vol. i. Preface; vol. iii. p. 436. Annual Register, 1793, pp. 10. 17.
Colquhoun's British Empire, pp. 357. 362.
Brougham's Colonial Policy, book i. sect. 3. p. 494.

The whole of the trade from the Danish West India islands employed only between fifty and sixty vessels, from 80 to 120 tons burthen.

Some charges having been made against Sir J. Orde, as governor of Dominica, by the assembly of that island, he was recalled to England, and the charges investigated before the King in council. The result of the inquiry, Mr. H. Dundas tells him, " is highly creditable to you; and the more so, from the full and minute considerations which those charges, and their general imputations against you, underwent."

In 1786, the assembly had voted him their thanks; and in 1791, the principal inhabitants did so again, for suppressing a dangerous revolt of the slaves.

In February, the Methodists held a conference at Antigua; and by the returns which were made to this conference from the different islands, they found that their total number of members in society amounted to 6570 persons. Of this number, 2420 resided in Antigua, of whom only thirty-six where Whites, and 105 people of colour. The rest were Blacks.

Nearly 400 had been formed into a society in Nevis.

From the return made to the House of Commons, it appears that Great Britain imported 90,547 cwt. of coffee and 163,500 hhds. of sugar from the West Indies, of which 28,928 cwt. of coffee and 80,300 hhds. of sugar came from Jamaica.

Upon the 25th of November, his Majesty's ships Penelope, Captain B. S. Rowley, and Iphigenia, Captain Sinclair, captured L'Inconstante, of thirty-six guns, in the Bight of Leogane, St. Domingo.

In August, St. Christopher's was considerably damaged by a hurricane. On the evening preceding the storm, there were near thirty sail at anchor in the roads, but in the morning none were to be seen, except those stranded at different places along the coast.

June 29th, George Poyntz Ricketts, Esq., was appointed governor of Tobago.

The Methodists in Grenada finished their chapel: it would contain about 400 persons, but was at times too small for the congregation. The Methodists were 100 in society in June. In August, the assembly passed an act, establishing the Romish clergy, with the Church of England, in every parish throughout the island — allowing them £200 per annum, and prohibiting preachers of any other denomination whatever from exercising the functions of

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 191.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 75. 77. 80. 443.; vol. iii. p. 16.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 16. Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Annual Register, 1793, pp. 43. 63.

ministers, under the penalty of being treated as rogues and vagabonds. The bill, however, did not pass into a law.

General export of the four staple articles of produce of the British sugar colonies, from return to order of House of Commons, May the 5th, 1806, for 1793, — 2,129,750 cwt. of sugar, 4,907,051 gallons of rum, 92,016 cwt. of coffee, and 9,173,583 lbs. of cotton.

The dried fish from the United States, imported into all our islands collectively, was 5025 quintals; and the herrings, or other pickled fish, amounted to 426 barrels.

A Spanish squadron under Lieutenant-General Ariztizable, composed of seven sail of the line and ten frigates, arrived at Porto Cavallo in July, where they remained six months, and suffered dreadfully from the fever. They then crossed as rapidly as possible to Fort Dauphin, where a part remained. The rest went to the Havaña, and remained there until the ships rotted, for they were found not sea-worthy; when, in 1801, an order was sent to the Havaña, for their return to Spain.

In May, his Majesty's ship Experiment arrived in English Harbour from Grenada, in the greatest distress, having lost almost all her men by the fever. An artificer belonging to the ordnance, who had gone on board, and slept in a blanket belonging to one of the dead men, was seized with the fever, and died in a few hours. The infection by means of this blanket, which was carried on shore to the ordnance quarters, with the wearing apparel of the deceased, as part of his property, was communicated to the whole detachment of artillery, and from them to the 31st regiment, then on garrison duty. A boat's crew of the Solebay frigate were sent on board the Experiment to assist in working her into the harbour; they caught the infection, and all died. They had communicated the disease to the crew of their own ship, of whom 200 perished. The contagion was carried to St. John's.

This year, there are only three privateers reported to have been taken by the English in the West Indies.

On the 11th of June, Admiral Gardner with a fleet, having on board 1100 soldiers, under the command of General Bruce, arrived off Cape Navire, in Martinico. The troops landed on the 16th, and were immediately joined by about 800 French royalists, and the whole took post within five miles of St. Pierre's, the general intending to attack the two forts which commanded that town. On the morning of the 18th, the troops were to march in two columns,

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Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 29, 30. 32, 33.
Stephens's Defence of Register Bill, p. 201.
Depon's South America, vol. ii. pp. 51. 211.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 419. quoting Dr. Chisholm.
Steele's Naval Chronologist, p. 48.
Edwards, vol. iii. p. 438.

the British in one, and the French in another. They were in motion before daylight; but some alarm taking place among the royalists, they began in mistake, firing on one another. Their commander was wounded, and they retreated to the post from which they had marched. As no dependance could be placed upon these troops, and the British were too few, the attack was given up, and the troops reimbarked.

The assembly at St. Vincent's passed an act, declaring, " that no person in the island should in future preach, without first obtaining a licence; and no person was eligible to a licence, but those who had actually resided twelve months on the island." This militated entirely against the itinerant plan, which had been pursued among the Methodist missionaries who had been established by that sect in the islands. Though they should continue idle for one year, at its expiration there was no certainty of procuring a licence.

The penalties for breaking this law were — for the first offence, a fine of ten johannes, or imprisonment for not more than ninety days, nor less than thirty; for the second offence, such corporal punishment as the court should think proper to inflict, and banishment; and lastly, on return from banishment, death.

On the Sunday following the passing of this act, Mr. Lumb preached, as usual, in the Methodist chapel, which had been built by their own money, and to which no other person presumed to lay the most distant claim. On the ensuing Thursday, he was committed to jail. Through the iron gratings of his window, he repeated the crime which had brought him to that condition; and the Negroes thronged round the prison, " to receive his instructions, and weep over his calamities." To prevent this, the magistrates ordered him to be closely confined, and none but white people were allowed to visit him. From this place Mr. Lumb was released, upon his promising to quit the island.

Dr. Coke says, " before the above iniquitous law was enacted, no island afforded a more pleasing prospect of the prosperity of religion than that of St. Vincent's. Above 1000 of the poor slaves were already stretching forth their hands unto God; and multitudes more attended constantly the preaching of the word. The Negroes throughout the island appeared in general ripe for the gospel, but the door was shut against it."

Dr. Coke returned to London, and waited upon Mr. Dundas, one of the secretaries of state; who, upon the 31st of August, informed him, " that his Majesty in council had been graciously pleased to disannul the act of the assembly at St. Vincent's;" and " that his Majesty's pleasure should be notified by the first packet that sailed to the West Indies.—Thus was liberty of conscience again restored, by the best of monarchs, to his loyal subjects."

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 272. 275. 277.

The repeal of this law opened a new epoch in the religious history of St. Vincent's.

In February, the number of Methodists in society at St. Christopher's amounted to thirty-two Whites, and 1522 coloured people and Blacks. Dr. Coke calls it a "happy island, in which genuine religion flourished like an olive-tree in the house of God."

The number of Methodists in society at Tortola and the adjacent islands amounted to about 1400 souls.

Le Gœlan, of fourteen guns, was taken, the 16th of April, by his Majesty's ship Penelope, thirty-six guns, B. S. Rowley, on the Jamaica station.

Le Curieux brig, of fourteen guns, was taken by his Majesty's ship Inconstant, Captain A. Montgomery, the 3d of June.

La Convention Nationale schooner, of ten guns, was taken by Commodore Ford's squadron, in September, at St. Domingo.

Le Vengeur of twelve guns, La Revolutionaire of twenty, Le Sans Culottes, twenty-two, were taken by Captain C. Parker, in the Blanche, the 30th of December.

His Majesty's ship Hyæna, twenty-four, Captain Hargood, was taken by La Concorde, of forty guns, off Española, in May.

His Majesty's cutter, Advice, of fourteen guns, Lieutenant E. Tyrrel, was lost in the Bay of Honduras — crew saved.

1794.

Upon the 6th of January, Sir John Jervis, with the fleet under his command[1], arrived at Barbadoes from England. On the 5th of

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 61. 114. Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 444, 445.

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[1] The following ships composed the naval force under Vice-Admiral Sir J. Jervis: —

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Asia	64	Captain J. Brown.
Assurance	44	——— V. C. Berkeley. (St. Lucia and Guadaloupe.)
Avenger	16	——— J. Milne.
Boyne	98	Vice-Admiral Sir J. Jervis. Captain G. Grey.
Beaulieu	40	——— J. Salisbury.
Blanche	32	——— C. Parker.
Blonde	32	——— J. Markam. (Martinico only.)
Bull Dog	14	——— E. Brown. (Guadaloupe only.)
Ceres	32	——— R. Incledon.
Dromedary, S.S.	24	——— S. Tatham.
Experiment	44	——— S. Miller.
Irresistible	74	——— J. Henry.
Inspector	16	——— W. Bryer.
Nautilus	16	——— J. Carpenter.
Quebec	32	——— J. Rogers.
Roebuck	44	——— A. Christie.

February, they approached the island of Martinico, in three divisions, having on board 6085 soldiers, including a detachment of Negro dragoons.

Commodore Thompson, with his squadron, and the detachment under Major-General Dundas, arrived in Gallion Bay in the evening. Captain Faulknor, in the Zebra, drove the enemy from a battery on Point à Chaux, and the troops disembarked without further opposition. They halted for the night, and the next morning took possession of Morne le Brun. Lieutenant-Colonel Craddock was then sent to attack Fort Trinité: it was abandoned upon his approach, and the troops took possession of it, with the cannon and stores. At the same time, Commodore Thompson took possession of the vessels in the harbour. Bellegarde, the Mulatto chief, being obliged to evacuate a fort bearing his own name, set fire to the town of Trinity as he retired. Most of the houses, and a quantity of stores, were destroyed by the flames.

On the evening of the 7th, Major-General Dundas left Major Skirrett to command in Fort Trinité, and proceeded to Gros Morne, a strong fortification, commanding the principal pass between the north and south parts of the island. The French retired at his approach.

On the 9th, the major-general advanced to Bruneau, from whence he sent Lieutenant-Colonel Craddock to seize Fort Matilde: the place was abandoned upon his approach. On the night of the 10th, they were attacked by 800 of the French, under the command of Bellegarde, who was repulsed, and compelled to retreat to Fort Bourbon. In the attack, the English had eight killed and nineteen wounded.

Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 446, 447.

Vice-Admiral Sir John Jervis's Fleet — continued.

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Rattlesnake	16	Captain M. H. Scott. (Martinico and St. Lucia.)
Rose	28	——— E. Rion.
Retort	—	——— Hon. C. Herbert. (St. Lucia and Guadaloupe.)
Reprisal	18	——— Young.
St. Margaritta	36	——— E. Harvey.
Solebay	32	——— W. H. Kelly.
Seaflower (cutter)	14	——— W. Pierrepoint.
Terpsichore	32	——— S. Edwards.
Ulysses	44	——— R. Morice.
Undaunted	32	——— J. Carpenter.
Vengeance	74	Commodore C. Thompson. Captain Hon. H. Powlett.
Veteran	64	——— C. E. Nugent.
Vesuvius (bomb)	8	——— C. Sawyer.
Winchelsea	32	——— Lord Viscount Garlies.
Woolwich	44	——— J. Parker.
Zebra	16	——— R. Faulknor.

And the Tickler, Venom, Teizer, Vexer, Spiteful, and Tormentor, gun boats.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.—Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 312.

Colonel Sir Charles Gordon, with his brigade, was not able to make good their landing at Case des Navires: but on the morning of the 8th, he landed at Cape Pilotte, a few miles to the N.W. The French were masters of the heights above the road; he, therefore, marched round through the mountains, and by day-break on the 9th had gained, unmolested by the enemy, the most commanding post in that part of the country, from whence Colonel Myers took possession of La Chapelle.

On the 12th, the French abandoned their works at St. Catherine, and the posts that guarded the first ravine. Colonel Myers took possession of them, crossed four ravines higher up, and seized the batteries which defended them. The French fled in all directions, and the troops took possession of the five batteries between Case des Navires and Fort Royal. They proceeded within a league of Fort Bourbon, and occupied the posts of Gentilly, La Coste, and L'Archet.

Lieutenant-General Prescott, with the other division, landed at Trois Rivieres, from thence he marched to Salee. On the march, Brigadier-General Whyte was detached to force the batteries of Cape Soloman and Point à Burgos: he stormed them, and afterwards, with a reinforcement of 200 seamen, took possession of Mount Matharine. Here batteries were erected against Pigeon Island, which surrendered in two hours after the fire was opened upon it, after losing fifteen killed and twenty-five wounded. This island is a steep rock, accessible only by a ladder fixed against a perpendicular wall: the summit is ninety feet above the level of the sea. There were found on it eleven forty-two pounders, six thirty-two pounders, and fourteen thirteen-inch mortars, with one howitzer, and an immense quantity of ammunition.

The ships now took possession of the harbour of Fort Royal, and the transports went to Cohee, from whence they had communication, by a chain of posts, with Bruneau.

On the 14th, Sir Charles Grey, the commander-in-chief, marched to Bruneau, and from thence to Gros Morne, from whence he detached Colonel Campbell through the woods to attack Montigne, proceeding himself to Capot and Callebasse. Colonel Campbell was attacked and killed; but the detachment being reinforced by the Honourable Captain Ramsay, they drove the enemy before them, and took possession of Montigne. The major-general now took post on Morne Rouge. During the night the French abandoned Morne Bellevieur, of which the English took possession.

At daylight on the 16th, the French sent a flag of truce from St. Pierre, requiring three days to consider of a capitulation. Sir Charles Grey returned for answer, that he would allow them only three hours, and immediately advanced towards the town. At the

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 448, 449, 450, 451.

same time a squadron, with a detachment under Colonel Symes, stood for the bay.

Captain Harvey, in the Santa Margaritta, silenced a battery from which the French were firing hot shot; and at four in the morning of the 17th, the troops landed, and marched towards St. Pierre. The French seeing the foes approach both by sea and land, evacuated the town, leaving their colours flying. By ten o'clock Colonel Symes's detachment marched into the town, and soon afterwards General Dundas and his army joined him. No outrage was offered to the inhabitants — the women and children sat at their doors to see the soldiers pass. One instance occurred of an attempt to pillage: the offender was immediately hung at the gate of the Jesuits' college. Lieutenant Malcolm, of the 41st, was appointed town major.

On the night of the 18th, Sir Charles Grey intended to attack General Bellegarde, on the heights of Sourier. A few hours previous to the time fixed, Bellegarde descended to attack the general's left, intending to cut off the communication between the British army and navy. Lieutenant-General Prescott kept Bellegarde in check, while Colonels Buckeridge, Coote, and Blundell attacked his camp on the left. The post was carried, and his own guns turned against him: he fled with great loss, and in a few days surrendered himself, with his second in command and 300 followers, promising never to serve against his Majesty again, if he might be sent to North America. His request was granted.

On the 20th of February, Forts Bourbon and Louis, with the town of Fort Royal, were closely invested. The division under General Prescott broke ground on the 25th, when a change took place in the mode of attacking Fort Bourbon, at the suggestion of M. de Sansi, and it was determined to cut off the communication between Fort Bourbon and the town of Fort Royal. Two batteries were formed, under his direction, by the seamen, which dismounted the guns of Fort Louis, on the front attacked: another battery of five twenty-fours was raised on Mount Tortueson. The heavy work of dragging up the cannon was done by the seamen, under the command of Captains Nugent and Rogers — their merit was acknowledged by the commander-in-chief: and another battery was raised near Prince Edward's quarters, which dismounted the guns upon the upper batteries of Fort Louis.

On the 17th of March, the advanced batteries were within two hundred yards of the redoubt of Fort Bourbon, and five hundred from the fort itself. Arrangements were made for storming the fort. On that night, Lieutenant Bowen of the Boyne, with the night guard and gun-boats, pushed into the Carenage, and captured the

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 452, 453, 454.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 27.; vol. xvii. p. 316.

Bienvenu frigate, under a heavy fire of grape and musketry from the ramparts and parapet of the fort.

On the morning of the 20th, at ten A.M., all the arrangements being complete, the Asia, sixty-four, Captain J. Brown, and Zebra sloop, Captain R. W. Faulknor, stood towards the mouth of the harbour, with the boats under Captains Nugent and Riou, with 1200 men. A detachment from the army advanced at the same time, towards the bridge over the canal at the back of Fort Royal. The admiral's dispatches detail the attack : —

" This combination succeeded in every part, except the entrance of the Asia, which failed for want of precision in the ancient lieutenant of the port, Monsieur de Tourelles, who had undertaken to pilot the Asia. Captain Faulknor observing that ship baffled in her attempts, and the Zebra having been under a shower of grape-shot for a great length of time (which he, his officers, and sloop's company stood with a firmness not to be described), he determined to undertake the service alone ; and he executed it with matchless intrepidity and conduct, running the Zebra close to the wall of the fort, and, leaping overboard at the head of his sloop's company, assailed and took this important post before the boats could get on shore, although they rowed with all the force and animation which characterize English seamen in the face of an enemy. No language of mine can express the merit of Captain Faulknor upon this occasion ; but as every officer and man in the army and squadron bears testimony to it, this incomparable action cannot fail of being recorded in the page of history. The grenadiers and light infantry made good use of their field-pieces and muskets, and, soon after the surrender of the fort, took possession of the town by the bridge over the canal at the back of it ; while a strong detachment from the naval battalions at Point Negro, under the command of Captains Rogers, Scott, and Bayntun, in flat boats, barges, and pinnaces, approached the beach in front. Monsieur Rochambeau did not lose a moment in requesting that commissioners might be appointed to consider of terms of surrender ; and the general and I named Commodore Thompson, Colonel Symes, and Captain Conyngham, to meet three persons named by him, at Dillon's plantation, at nine o'clock on the 21st, and on the 22d the terms were concluded. The rapid success of his Majesty's arms has been produced by the high courage and perseverance of his officers, soldiers, and seamen, in the most difficult and toilsome labours, which nothing short of the perfect unanimity and affection between them and their chiefs could have surmounted.

" Commodore Thompson conducted the enterprise on the side of La Trinité like an able and judicious officer. Captain Henry carried on the business at Ance d'Arlet with great energy, and has

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 316.

been indefatigable in following all the operations he has had a share in.

" To Captains Brown, Nugent, Harvey, Markham, Faulknor, Sawyer, Carpenter, and Scott, I am greatly indebted for the manner in which they conducted the attack against St. Pierre. Captains Harvey, Kelly, Rogers, Sailsbury, Incledon, Riou, Lord Garlies, Carpenter, Scott, and Bayntun, have gained great reputation in the army by the conduct of the naval battalions and working parties under their command. Captain Berkeley (since the arrival of the Assurance) has furnished a powerful reinforcement of men from that ship. Captain Pierrepoint has been very active in the service allotted to the Seaflower. In Captain Grey I have found the experience of age joined to the vigour of youth. The captains of the forty-four gun ships en flûte, of the store-ship and hospital-ship, have done well.

" For other particulars I beg leave to refer their lordships to Captain Powlett, who carries this dispatch, and to Captain Markham, of the Blonde, who conveys him. They served with Commodore Thompson at La Trinité, and arrived on the south side of the island in time to have a share in most of the transactions there.

" I have the honour to be, sir,
" With great consideration,
" Your most obedient humble servant,
" J. JERVIS."

Forty-two men were killed and wounded on board the different ships.

Captain Nugent was the second person on the walls of the fort. The lieutenant of the cutter, with the Veteran's people, hauled down the French colours. The admiral, with the general's consent, gave Captain Nugent command of the fort.

The capitulation gave the garrison the honours of war, and a passage to Europe; and to Rochambeau a passage to Rhode Island in America. They marched out between a file of the troops and seamen, which lined the way from the fort to the parade at Fort Royal. General Whyte and Captain Nugent had the honour of hoisting the English flag at Fort Bourbon.

General Prescott was left commander-in-chief of the island.

Commodore Thompson's Report of the Capture of Fort Royal, Martinico.

" SIR, " Fort Royal, March 20, 1794.

" I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that the only loss we sustained in the capture of Fort Royal is the pilot of the Zebra killed, and four seamen belonging to the same ship wounded. So soon as I perceived she could fetch in, I gave orders to Captains

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 30.; vol. xvii. p. 316.

Nugent and Riou, who commanded the fleet boats, which, with the men embarked in them, were lying upon their oars, to push in and mount the walls, when every exertion was made, and the boats seemed to fly towards the fort. Captain Faulknor, in the mean time, in a most spirited and gallant manner, entered the harbour through the fire of all their batteries, and laid his sloop alongside the walls, there being deep water close to; when the enemy, terrified at his audacity, the flat boats full of seamen pulling towards them, and the appearance of the troops from all quarters, struck their colours to the Zebra. A well-directed and steady fire from the gun-boats under Lieutenant Bowen, as also from our batteries, was of great service. The alacrity and steadiness of the officers and seamen in general under my command was such, that I had not the least doubt of success against the whole force of the enemy, had they disputed our entrance.

"The fort is full of ammunition and stores of all sorts, but the buildings are in a miserable condition from the effects of our bomb, the gun-boats and batteries.

"I have the honour, &c.
"J. Thompson."

Sir Charles Grey, in his dispatches, says, that "Captain Faulknor's conduct justly gained him the admiration of the whole army."

Admiral Jervis made him post into the frigate captured in Fort Royal harbour, which, out of compliment to Captain Faulknor, he named the Undaunted.

In a letter to his mother, dated the 25th of March, Captain Faulknor says, "I had a ship's cartouch-box, which is made of thick wood, buckled round my body, with pistol cartridges in it for the pistol I carried by my side. As the Zebra came close to the fort, a grape-shot struck, or rather grazed, my right-hand knuckle, and shattered the cartouch in the centre of my body; had it not miraculously been there, I must have been killed on the spot — thanks to Almighty God for his kind preservation of me in the day of battle! The admiral has appointed me to the Rose, paying me such compliments, that it is impossible for me to relate them. The sword and colours of Fort Royal were delivered to me by the governor of the fort: and I take some credit to myself, that after the Zebra had stood an heavy fire, and when we had power to retaliate, for we were mounted upon the walls, I would not allow a man to be hurt, on their being panic-struck and calling for mercy. It would take a volume to relate the events which have happened to me since I left England. The Zebra, when she came out of action, was cheered by the admiral's ship; and the admiral himself publicly embraced me on the quarter-deck, and directed the band to play, 'See, the conquering hero comes.' Such compliments

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 31.

are without example in the navy — I never could have deserved them." [1]

Upon the 5th of March, information was received at St. Vincent's of the insurrection at Grenada. Governor Seton ordered the signal of alarm to be fired, and in the evening the militia appeared in arms upon the parade. One-half were to do duty on Berkshire Hill during a certain number of days, when they were to be relieved by the others, and so on in rotation. The Queen's company to windward, and the Chateaubellair company to leeward, were left to guard their respective boundaries, and to forward to head-quarters any intimations respecting the Caribs' motions. On the following day, a planter, with his family, arrived in town from Mariaqua, who informed the governor that a friendly Carib had urged him to quit the island without delay, as his countrymen intended to proclaim war against the English within three days, and had determined to murder every one of them.

Governor Seton sent an aid-de-camp to the Caribs, who expressed the utmost surprize at the suspicions entertained against them. "They had," they said, "been once already deceived by the French; and their misconduct during the last war we had generously cancelled, and, since the peace, had displayed toward them the utmost kindness and humanity. No possible advantage could arise by their making war against us, and no pardon could be expected should they attempt it. They could not answer for those who resided at Grand Sable and Rabaccaw, not living in habits of intimacy with them; but could not discover, in any wise, that they intended to interrupt the tranquillity of the colony."

The next day, two Caribs who had been sent to the windward chiefs, Chatoyer and Duvalle, to summon them before the governor, returned, and said, that "they were of opinion that the Caribs had no intention of breaking with the English. But should the generality of them adopt a measure so absurd, they implored protection for themselves, their wives, and little ones, as they could not think of rendering themselves so detestable as to unite with them." Yet,

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 200.

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[1] CAPTAIN FAULKNOR'S LETTER TO HIS MOTHER.

"*His Majesty's ship Blanche, Barrington Bay, St. Lucia, April* 4.

"HONOURED MADAM. — Since my last of the 25th of March from Martinico, the fleet and troops have proceeded to this island, and found it an easy capture, after sustaining the fire from the different batteries, and intending to storm the strong fort of Morne Fortune, in which I was to have commanded a party of my own seamen of the Rose, which ship I had until this island was taken, when the admiral was good enough to remove me to a frigate of thirty-two guns, the Blanche, where I mean to stop, not wishing to have a larger ship. The Rose was the first ship into Barrington Bay, so named by Sir John Jervis, it being the famous place where that good admiral made so gallant a defence in the late war. I think he will receive pleasure to hear of this event, and, had I a moment's time, I should not fail to write to him. We next proceed to Guadaloupe, where we shall probably meet with some opposition. — I am ever," &c.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 32.

on the Tuesday following, these men were foremost in plundering the very plantations where they had made these professions, and where they had resided, in ease and affluence, for more than ten years.

On Sunday evening information was received, that the Caribs in Mariaqua, in conjunction with the French, were plundering the estate of a French lady, who, with her family, were considered as well affected to the English. Captain Seton, the governor's son, was sent, with some volunteers, to apprehend the perpetrators. Late in the night, they fell in with some Carib and French huts, illuminated, and their inmates rioting on the plunder of the day. Only eighteen were made prisoners: these had the French national cockade in their caps, and arms and ammunition were found in the huts.

On Monday evening a reinforcement of thirty-four men was sent to windward to Captain Morgan, who expected to be attacked by the Caribs. The next morning they saw Mr. Gilchrist's house and plantations in flames; the troops immediately quickened their march, and got into a narrow range of high canes in a valley surrounded by hills: here they were sorely galled by the fire of the enemy, and retreated to join Captain Morgan, who determined to proceed to Kingston without delay. When they had advanced as far as Massarica river, they saw a body of Caribs, posted before them, on a ridge, which commanded the road. The Caribs made signs of peace, and so far imposed on some of the party, that they pronounced them friends, and encouraged the rest to go forward. As soon as they were completely exposed, the Caribs opened a destructive fire upon them, and another body of the enemy attacked them in the rear. A retreat was immediately determined upon, and effected, with the loss of sixteen of the finest young men in the colony. No quarter was given by the conquerors, who put their prisoners to death, by cutting off the legs and arms, and otherwise mangling their bodies.

Those who escaped spread terror and dismay by their reports. All the inhabitants of the windward country forsook their houses; and the Caribs burning every house and plantation, and putting every white man to death, advanced to Calliaqua. On Thursday morning they reached Dorsetshire Hill, pulled down the British flag, and hoisted the tri-coloured one in its place.

The Caribs to leeward, under Chatoyer, their commander-in-chief, were not less active. They arrived at Chateaubellair on Tuesday morning, where they were joined, with the greatest zeal and eagerness, by all the French inhabitants, who became guides for the Caribs, and shewed them the hiding-places of the English — as though ingratitude and murder were the proper returns for a repeated series of lavish acts of generosity.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 202, 204.

Three white young men were taken prisoners, and carried to Dorsetshire Hill; where, upon the following Saturday, they were ordered out by Chatoyer, and massacred in the most shocking manner. Every exertion was used by the French and Caribs to render this position as strong as possible. With great labour they dragged one six and one four-pounder from Stubb's Bay, and had them mounted by Saturday night.

The English, in the meantime, removed their records, &c. to the fort on Berkshire Hill. Measures were also taken to secure the town; and the surrounding canes to a certain distance were burnt, that they might not conceal the approach of the Caribs. A post was established on Sion Hill. The Caribs were frequently seen on the estates belonging to Messrs. Kean and Sharp: and once a small party advanced as far as the government house, none of which] places are six furlongs from Kingston. The troops upon Sion Hill kept the enemy in awe, by a constant discharge of shot and shells.

On Wednesday morning, Captain Campbell, with a company of the 46th, arrived from Martinico; and in the course of the week, the Zebra sloop of war, and the Roebuck. These were opportune reinforcements; for the Caribs and French would have begun to bombard the town on the Sunday morning.

On Saturday at midnight, Captain Skinner, of his Majesty's sloop Zebra, led a party to storm Dorsetshire Hill. Lieutenants Hill and Samuel Grove of the navy followed. The company of the 46th, under Captain Carry, came next; and Major Whytell and Captain Campbell brought up the rear, with the militia and some armed Negroes. The ascent was by a winding and rugged path, and they got within eighty yards of the main post before they were discovered. Nothing could exceed the intrepidity of the assailants: they did not fire till they had approached within twenty yards, when Captain Skinner gave orders to fire and charge—he led the way himself, and was ably seconded by Lieutenants Hill and Grove. Captain Campbell of the 46th, and Major Whytell, stormed at another place; and in fifteen minutes the fate of the hill was decided. "Are you Chatoyer?" was the question asked the huge Carib chief, who fell, as he replied, "oui, b——e!" Major Leith, of the militia, killed him in single combat. His Royal Highness Prince William Henry had given Chatoyer a silver gorget, and this was found upon him.

The assailants had only five men killed and four wounded. Lieutenant Hill, of the Zebra, was one of the latter. Some of the enemy escaped, but several French and Caribs lay dead on the field.

In consequence of this defeat, the French abandoned their allies;

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 205. 207.—The facts, which are not in Dr. Coke's West Indies, were given to the author by his old messmate, Captain S. Grove.

but the Negroes on the plantations through which they were obliged to pass lay lurking for their prey, and caught great numbers of them. Mr. Dumont, the secretary of the conspiracy, fell into their hands — about twenty were hanged with him.

Two hundred Negroes were armed, and sent in pursuit of the fugitives. These returned the same evening, driving before them the French inhabitants of Calliaqua, men, women, and children, the plunder of whose houses had been more tempting than following the Caribs. Neither was English property safe from the hands of these destructive assistants. The governor and council, therefore, forbade any similar expeditions.

The Caribs soon formed three camps in the neighbourhood of Calliaqua, about three miles from Sion Hill. From these strong holds they sent various parties to plunder the adjacent country. At the very base of Sion Hill, and under its guns, they set fire to the sugar-works on Greathead's estate, and totally destroyed them.

On the 5th of April, two transports arrived with the 46th regiment, under convoy of his Majesty's ship Montague. The troops were landed the next morning, and marched to Berkshire Hill. These men had been prepared for the climate by a previous residence of three years at Gibraltar: preparations were made for storming the Carib camp.

About ten o'clock on the night of the 10th, the different parties marched for their respective stations. Captain Campbell of the 46th, at the head of the grenadiers, was to make the attack. In case of success, Captain Hall, with the light infantry, was to cut off the enemy's retreat to Calliaqua in one direction, and Colonel Loman, with the militia, and a detachment of sailors from his Majesty's ship Roebuck, in another. The light infantry reached their station about one o'clock, and were immediately attacked by very superior numbers: it had rained heavily, and the arms of the assailants were wet. They halted: Colonel Loman, with his party, were near their appointed station, when orders to retreat were given by some unknown person in the advanced files. The arrival of Captain Campbell with the grenadiers of the 46th, and Lieutenant Farquharson, with a detachment of the 60th, stopped the confusion. The whole charged the enemy, who, unable to withstand the bayonet, fled in all directions.

After destroying the encampments, the troops marched to the barrack-ground above Calliaqua, and intrenched themselves. Five hundred Negroes were ordered to be armed and drilled. Within a few days they appeared on the parade, and in a few weeks acquitted themselves beyond mediocrity in the discharge of their duty.

On Saturday the 25th of April, two armed schooners sailed from Kingston to attack the settlement of Duvalle, the Carib chief, at the north end of the island. The troops were commanded by

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Coke's West Indies, vol ii. pp. 208. 210. 211.

Lieutenant-Colonel Seton, and a detachment of seamen from the Roebuck, by Lieutenant Samuel Grove. On the 26th they attempted to land in the rear of some batteries and houses, but the road was found impracticable, and Colonel Seton determined to attack the batteries in front. A landing was effected under cover of the armed vessels; and the assailants, though exposed to a heavy fire of grape shot and musketry, and numbers of large rocky fragments, which were rolled from the height upon them, ascended the angular path, and drove all before them. Vast quantities of provisions were destroyed, all the houses were burnt, sixteen of their canoes were also taken. Our loss was three seamen killed and ten wounded, and nine soldiers wounded. The French sent reinforcements to the Caribs, and took post on the Vigie. From Dorsetshire Hill their fortifications soon appeared respectable.

On the 7th of May, nine columns of the enemy, estimated at 1000 men, descended the hills, and marched toward the camp at Calliaqua. They halted upon the discharge of the first gun, beat a parley, and sent a French officer with a flag of truce to summon the British commander to surrender. The Hon. Captain Molesworth returned a proper answer. In an hour the young Frenchman returned: he exhorted Captain Molesworth not to provoke an attack, as he was too feeble to resist; said that he came to make the last overtures he was to expect, which were, that he might march to Kingston unmolested, provided he laid down his arms and left the camp as it then was, with all the ammunition and stores it contained. Captain Molesworth repeated his determination to defend the place to the last extremity.

While these negociations were carrying on, the Alarm frigate hove in sight. If Captain Molesworth had surrendered, a party of Caribs were stationed in the mill and Negro houses belonging to Sir William Young, on the road to Kingston, to attack the unarmed soldiers; and this was the French plan: they then intended to throw the blame upon their allies.

The Alarm stood for Calliaqua: in less than an hour she anchored near the camp, commenced a well-directed and destructive fire upon the enemy, and landed a body of seamen, who drove all before them.

About one o'clock the next morning, the French, with a body of disaffected Negroes and Mulattoes, attacked the British out-posts, drove them from Dorsetshire Hill, and obtained a six pounder.

During the attack, the troops on Berkshire Hill were drawn up, "waiting in suspense the result of the conflict." When that was known, they were ordered to march, and retake a place which had been suffered to fall without their assistance. At daybreak, the troops, under the command of Captain Forster, Major Seton, and Major Whytell, had gained the summit of the hill; and, after a

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 212, 213, 214.

sharp conflict of two hours, regained possession of it. Numbers of the enemy threw themselves headlong from the precipices, and were dashed to pieces. Forty-eight lay dead, nineteen of whom were Whites. Only five prisoners were taken.

Those who escaped from Dorsetshire Hill retired to the Vigie, which they fortified with the greatest diligence. The hill is about one hundred yards in length, and twenty in breadth, bounded almost wholly by vallies, hardly passable. This hill they barricaded with sugar hogsheads filled with sand. Within musket shot to the N.W., was another small conical hill, which became their first redoubt. About cannon-shot, nearly in the same direction, was another hill that commanded the road from Kingston: this was their advanced post. Lieutenant-Colonel Ritchie, with 600 of the 60th, and Major Malcolm's rangers, having joined the forces, it was determined that the Vigie should be attacked.

On the night of the 11th of June, the troops destined for the attack, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Leighton of the 46th, halted, about ten o'clock, at Warawarow River, four miles from the Vigie: separated into four corps, and marched in different directions to invest the enemy. It was necessary to storm the advanced posts first: the westernmost was carried without much opposition — the fugitives were followed to the next, which was as easily won. To regain these posts the French made a sortie; but perceiving they were liable to be flanked by another corps coming up, they retreated within their works, and commenced a heavy cannonade. Two six pounders and a mortar were brought to play upon them, and a mutual firing kept up for five hours; by that time the French had expended all their shot. They therefore beat a parley, and sent a shabby-looking officer to Colonel Leighton, with an offer to surrender the place, if they might be permitted to carry their arms and wounded to the Carib country. Colonel Leighton insisted upon their surrendering at discretion. The negociation was a feint to gain time, whilst they abandoned the Vigie. They were discovered and charged. Numbers perished, but several escaped. Very few prisoners were taken: the Vigie was covered with their dead and dying. The killed and wounded of the British did not exceed thirty.

Colonel Leighton left Captain Cope of the 60th, with fifty men, to garrison the Vigie, and marched for Mount Young, with such rapidity, that some men died from fatigue; but no other loss was suffered in taking it. Upon Mount Young the English entrenched themselves, and sent some troops, under the command of Major Ecuyer, to assist Captain Otway, of his Majesty's sloop Thorn, in the capture of a promontory called Ouia, on the north-west coast. which defended a landing-place, where the enemy received their

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 216. 222.

supplies. This was effected without much loss, and the enemy were supposed to be shut up from all possibility of relief; but they crossed the mountains, and took possession of Morne Rhonde, and afterwards of a hill near the English camp at Chateaubellair. Until now, these mountains had been deemed impassable: they are very high, very rugged, and covered with wood.

This unexpected change of situation enabled them to receive reinforcements from St. Lucia, and changed the appearance of the campaign. Colonel Gordon commanded at Chateaubellair; but Lieutenant-Colonel Prevost arriving with reinforcements, the command became his. It was then ordered that the enemy's position should be stormed. Some sailors were landed from his Majesty's sloop Thorn, to assist at the operation. The different parties marched to their respective stations about two o'clock, and the assault was made before day-light. The fall of Lieutenant Moore, who led the way, threw the van into confusion. The enemy came forward to every little eminence, kept up an incessant fire of small arms, and turned the confusion into a flight.

The loss in killed and wounded was very severe, and the savages refused to part with the body of a Mr. Gregg, one of the most respectable men on the island.

Colonel Leighton, with the 46th, was now recalled from Mount Young, and landed at Walliabou, four miles from Colonel Gordon's camp at Chateaubellair: he ascended the heights unperceived by the enemy, and sat down in their rear, with two pieces of ordnance. In the night the enemy retreated, but were so closely pursued, that all their efforts to save a field-piece were ineffectual. In forty-eight hours they were again on Morne Rhonde, which was only accessible in one direction, and that through a very thick wood.

Colonel Leighton was soon encamped on an opposite ridge; and, for the first time, found the enemy were possessed of a mortar. A mutual bombardment continued for some days; but on the 4th of July, the Morne was stormed. The advance were discovered by the enemy's piquet, and suffered severely from their ambushed foes; but, with a rapid and determined march, they reached the advanced redoubt. After an hour's defence, the place was stormed, and then the savages fled in all directions. One four pounder and one mortar were found in the camp, and the commandant and aid-de-camp of the redoubt made prisoners. The English loss was sixteen killed, and several wounded. Colonel Leighton garrisoned the newly-acquired post, and returned to Mount Young.

General Grey left General Prescott to command in Martinico, and proceeded himself, on the 31st of March, with Sir J. Jervis, to attack St. Lucia.

On the 2d of April, several landings were made on St. Lucia;

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 226, 227. Edwards, vol. iii. p. 458.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 389.

one under General Dundas near Gros Islet, another near Islet du Choc, and another under Prince Edward at the Cul de Sac des Roseaux. The same night Colonel Coote landed at the Grand Cul de Sac, into which harbour the ships came the next day. The following night Colonel Coote attacked a redoubt close to the fort, put the garrison (forty men) to the sword, spiked the guns, and retired. A summons was then sent to General Ricard, desiring him to surrender Morne Fortuné, or it would be stormed that night. He replied, " that he was determined to die at his post, and all his garrison were equally determined." The landing the seamen with the scaling ladders, and other preparations, brought a flag of truce from the old general in the evening, saying his garrison had deserted him, and asking what terms would be given " to an old man who had served his king faithfully near forty years, and then lay at their mercy?" He was allowed all the honours of war, and his choice either to remain upon the island, or go to England, recommended to the protection of the English government.

On the 4th of April, the fortress, consisting of 300 men, surrendered on the same terms as had been granted to General Rochambeau at Martinico. General Ricard obtained leave to go to America.

Sickness soon appeared among the English troops. The night after they were landed, the second battalion of grenadiers remained in the open air, and the next morning forty of the best men were on the sick list.

Sir Charles Gordon was left governor of the island, and the army returned to Martinico.

The Quebec, Captain Rogers, Blanche, Captain Faulknor, Ceres, Captain Incledon, and Rose, Captain Scott, were sent to take possession of the Saintes, which was done by a party of seamen and marines with great gallantry. On the 8th of April, Admiral Sir J. Jervis, with the army, sailed from Fort Royal. On the 10th, the Boyne and Veteran anchored in Point à Petre Bay, but the transports did not get in until the following day. A detachment of troops, with 500 marines, were landed at Gozier Bay at one in the morning, under cover of the Winchelsea, Captain Lord Viscount Garlies, who placed his ship within half musket-shot of the battery, and soon silenced it. Under cover of his fire, the troops landed in a surf which swamped the Veteran's pinnace, and damaged several of the flat boats. The enemy spiked the guns in Gozier battery, and abandoned it and the village.

At midnight of the 11th of April, General Dundas, with the light infantry, joined by Captain Nevilles, fifty marines, and 200 seamen from the Veteran and Winchelsea, marched off in one column by a road that led through a post, which had been

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Edwards, vol. iii. p. 459, 460. Annual Register, 1794, pp. 339.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. pp. 389. 392.

reconnoitred, in order to be at daylight under the Fleur d'Epée, with two other columns, one under Colonel Symes, the other under Prince Edward. Colonel Symes marched near the coast, the Prince by a road between him and General Dundas. At the first post they found the guard ready: the English advanced, without flints in their muskets, in dead silence, under a shower of musketry, into the battery. Lieutenant Whitlock was left with some seamen and marines to guard this post, and the general pushed on for Fleur d'Epée. As the day dawned the storming began, under a heavy fire of musketry: the ascent of the part allotted to the seamen was scarcely practicable.

The fort being attacked in all quarters, all retreat for the garrison was cut off, and 150 of them were killed.

The garrison consisted of 232 men. Fort St. Louis, the town of Point à Petre, and a battery upon Islet à Cochon, were abandoned: thus the possession of Grand Terre was complete.

The colours of the second battalion of the regiment de Guadaloupe were taken in the battery near Point à Petre by Mr. Herbert, of his Majesty's ship Veteran, and given to Sir Charles Grey.

The seamen were reimbarked, and the light infantry under General Dundas, and landed again on the 15th of April between L'Ance des Vieu Habitans and La Baillie in Basse Terre. The Prince, Sir C. Grey, and Colonel Symes, landed on the 14th at Petit Bourg, and marched along the coast to Basse Terre, the enemy abandoning every thing before them. General Dundas, with a large body of seamen and marines under Captain Nugent, notwithstanding the enemy had made *abattis* in every ravine at the passage over every river, got possession of the parks, within half gun-shot of Morne Houel, which was attacked on the night of the 19th. Colonel Blundell was to lead one column, and Captain Nugent to command the other: the assailants marched across ravines thirty feet deep, and climbed up by the roots of trees. Colonel Blundell took possession of the fort at daylight.

The post of Palmiste was carried by Prince Edward and Colonel Symes, and that of Houelmont by Major-General Dundas. On the 21st the French governor capitulated, upon the same terms as the other island. General Collot had under his command, when he surrendered, 5877 troops.

This conquest was effected with the loss of only seventeen men killed, and about fifty wounded, on the part of the English.

Captain Faulknor to his Mother.

"His Majesty's ship Blanche, Guadaloupe, April 22, 1794.

"After a campaign unexampled for fatigue and severe service, the conquest of Guadaloupe was completed yesterday, with two

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Annual Register, 1799, p. 340. Edwards, vol. iii. p. 461.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 34.; vol. xvii. pp. 473, 474.

other small islands dependent on it, and I am sure it will give you no small pleasure to hear the share I have had in every part of the expedition. The value and importance of these islands can only be judged of by those who are witness to their high cultivation, richness, and the increase of trade that will consequently arise from their being in our possession. All our good fortune may be attributed to the unanimity of the two corps; the hearty zeal with which they have acted together, and the vigorous talents and measures of the two commanders-in-chief. His Royal Highness Prince Edward, who has been on service with us, embarks on board the Blanche to-morrow, when we sail for Halifax; and the ship will be refitted there, and remain on the coast of America until the ensuing October, when I return hither for the rest of the war."

From Halifax, 18th May, he wrote again to his mother, stating his having had a pleasant passage of eleven days, and that Prince Edward was "a pleasant kind companion." — "The Dædalus, a British frigate," he says, "has been kept in port these last five months by superior force. The Blanche, I trust, will be ready for sea in a few days, and I mean, without a moment's delay, to proceed to her relief.—In a former letter I related to you my receiving a shot in a cartouch-box that was buckled round the centre of my body; since which I commanded a detachment of seamen at the storming the strong fort of Fleur d'Epée at Guadaloupe, and which was thought impracticable to be taken by assault. The grenadiers, light infantry, and seamen, were sent on this service. The side of the mountain which the seamen had to get up was almost perpendicular, and defended by nature and art. All difficulties were overcome: but by the time we got upon the ramparts, we were so blown, and our strength so exhausted, that the strongest amongst us were unmanned. I was attacked by two Frenchmen, one of whom made a thrust at me with his bayonet, which went through the arm of my coat without wounding me, and the other made a blow at me, which I parried, and he eluded mine in return, but immediately sprung upon me, clasping his arms round my neck, and, fixing his teeth in the breast of my shirt, wrenched the sword out of my hand, and tripped me up; falling with great violence upon the ground, with this French officer upon me. In this situation two of my own seamen flew to my relief, and saved my life, and at a moment when the man upon me had his hand lifted up to stab me. An escape so providential, and an event so critical, calls for my warmest thanks to the Almighty. The conquest of this fort determined the fate of Guadaloupe: the troops, who had intended before to make a vigorous opposition, now ran before us, and we had little to do afterwards but to march through the island — a march indeed of great severity in a climate so

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 34.

unhealthy. Thus ended the conquest of the French West Indies before the rainy season had set in, which alone might have frustrated all our hopes."

On the 5th of May, 2377 men from England arrived at Barbadoes. General Grey detained eight battalion companies of the 35th, and sent eight flank companies of his own army, in their stead, to proceed to Jamaica. One hundred died on the passage, and 150 more were left dying at Port Royal. The survivors were sent to Port-au-Prince, where, within two months, 640 British troops perished by sickness only.

On the 3d of June, a French squadron, consisting of two fifty-gun ships, one of forty guns, "armé en flûte," one frigate, and five transports, appeared off Guadaloupe.

On the 6th of June, Sir John Jervis received information at St. Christopher's that a French armament was off Point à Petre: he sailed immediately, and, on the afternoon of the 7th, landed Sir C. Grey at Basse Terre, and proceeded to Point à Petre, where he found that the French, on the preceding day, had, with 1500 troops, forced Fort Fleur d'Epée, and the other forts, and were in possession of the town. Colonel Drummond had twice repulsed the French in their attack upon Fleur d'Epée; but the French royalists, in the hope of obtaining mercy, insisted on the gates being thrown open. The British troops crossed over to Basse Terre. At this time General Arnold, of American notoriety, fell into the hands of the French: he changed his name to Anderson, and escaped from the prison ship on a small raft, from which he got into a canoe, and went on board the British admiral's ship.

Whatever troops could be spared from the other islands were sent to assist Sir Charles Grey at Guadaloupe. Many skirmishes took place between the 19th of June and the 1st of July, when, with the hopes of finishing the campaign at one blow, it was planned that Brigadier-General Symes should in the night take possession of the heights round the town of Point à Petre, while the general himself from the heights of Mascot should be in readiness, on the brigadier's making a signal, to storm Fort Fleur d'Epée. The brigadier was misled by his guides: the troops entered the town at the wrong place, where it was impossible to scale the walls of the fort. After losing between four and five hundred men, he was obliged to retreat, mortally wounded.

All attempts to regain Grande Terre were now abandoned, until reinforcements should arrive; and the English occupied a line between St. John's Point and Bay Mahault. The head quarters were at camp Berville. The climate soon diminished their numbers. In September the army was inadequate to supply the guards for the different batteries: some companies had not a man

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Edwards, vol. iii. pp. 462, 463, 464, 465. 467. 470. Barlow, vol. v. p. 514.

doing duty, and the 43d regiment had only a corporal and three men fit for duty.

On the 26th of September, the French under Victor Hughes, with a large body of armed Blacks and Mulattoes, in small vessels, passed the English fleet in the night, and made good their landing in two detachments, one at Goyave, the other at Bay Mahault. The latter immediately marched to Gabarre, and the former to Petit Bourg. Lieutenant-Colonel Drummond, with some convalescents from the hospital, and a party of royalists, took post at a battery upon Point Bacchus: they were soon surrounded, the battery taken, and the whole party made prisoners. This deprived the British of all communication with the shipping. The French then formed a junction with the other detachment which had landed at Bay Mahault, and by this means completely invested the camp at Berville; its whole strength, including sick and convalescents, were 250 regulars and 300 royalists. They were attacked on the morning of the 29th, and, after a conflict of three hours, defeated their assailants. They repulsed another attack upon the 30th, and one on the 4th of October.

The increased numbers of the French, and the impossibility of opening a communication with the fleet, induced General Graham, on the 6th, to send a flag to the French commissioner, with terms of capitulation. Those which related to the royalists were declared inadmissible; and the sanction of a covered boat, in which twenty-five of them went to the admiral's ship, was all that could be obtained. Upwards of 300 were left to the vengeance of the republicans. Finding themselves excluded from the capitulation, they solicited permission to attempt cutting their way through the enemy. This unfortunatly was refused, with the hope that Victor Hughes would relent on their surrender; but he ordered a guillotine to be erected, with which fifty were beheaded in an hour. Even this was thought too slow: the remainder were fettered to each other, placed on the brink of the trenches they had defended, and shot. The killed dragged the wounded, and some that in all probability were untouched, with their falling weight, into the ditch, where the soil was immediately thrown upon them — the living, the wounded, and the dead together!

The whole island, with the exception of Fort Matilda, was now in the hands of the French. General Prescott sustained a siege from the 14th of October until the 10th of December, when the fort being no longer tenable, and his garrison reduced, he silently evacuated it.

Vice-Admiral Caldwell, with reinforcements under the command of General Sir John Vaughan, arrived too late to save the island; and on the 27th of November, Sir John Jervis and Sir Charles Grey sailed for England.

Edwards, vol. iii. p. 472. — p. 473, quoting Cooper Williams. — p. 474.

When the republicans entered the fortress which General Prescott had evacuated, Victor Hughes ordered the monumental stone placed over the body of Major-General Dundas to be destroyed, and the body to be taken up and thrown into the river Gallion.

If the greater atrocities committed by the apt pupils of Buonaparte had not outraged humanity beyond all precedent, and in a variety of ways too horrible to relate, the character of Victor Hughes might have claimed pre-eminence of infamy; but bad and fiend-like as he was, subsequent events in Spain and Portugal have proved that even his atrocities could be surpassed.

Captain Faulknor's Letter to Prince Edward.

" Sir,

" In obedience to the commands of your R. H., I embrace the earliest occasion of transmitting, as well as I have had the power to collect, the several events which have occurred since your R. H. left the West Indies.

" The uncertain situation of a cruizing frigate, and my being dispatched a few hours after the Blanche's arrival to protect the north side of Guadaloupe, afforded me but little opportunity to make inquiry, and enables me still less to give a regular account, when such innumerable changes have arisen in so short a space of time. In reciting the unpleasant aspect of our affairs at this island, it will be impossible to prevent mentioning many painful circumstances; but when I contemplate the situation of this country in April last, where your R. H. had shone with such distinguished bravery and merit, and at the head of troops worthy of being thus led and inspired by the leader,—what a sad reverse now, to behold the havoc of mortality, and the fruits of one unfortunate military error, which happened at Point à Petre, soon after the reinforcement had landed from France.

" That I may not, however, have reference to this out of its place, I will return to the period of my leaving Halifax, from whence I went, in company with the Alarm, to Boston; and, being satisfied that the Concorde and Perdrix had not sailed, pursued my orders from Admiral Murray, and made all the expedition in my power to join Sir J. Jervis; but, owing to contrary winds and calms, did not arrive at Guadaloupe until the 20th of October, and found the Boyne and Terpsichore at Basse Terre, the latter having joined the admiral a short time before. The Alarm arrived two days after us, having parted company with the Blanche in the course of the passage.

" I found the admiral in good health and spirits * *

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 398. Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 34.

" The admiral had frequently written to America for the different frigates to return; but as he always put his signature at the corner of the letters, it was enough for the friendship and sagacity of the Americans; and if they were not opened, they were at least never allowed to be delivered. The Terpsichore got some intimation of this treachery when she went into port, — and the other ships will soon be here.

" A short time previous to the Blanche's arrival, our reduced camp near Petit Bourg was obliged to capitulate, after sustaining many attacks from the enemy. The terms of this capitulation were such, I believe, as are usually given, except for the royalists, for whom no proposition or alternative could be obtained, or even listened to.

" I pretend not to comment on these events; but I never understood that it was possible to extricate the small force Colonel ——— had with him, from the superiority of numbers, the advantage of situation, and the constitutional strength of the inhabitants and Blacks, who are now become free and armed throughout the island. The new French citizens have all the enthusiasm of freedom; and, as if vindictive cruelty and savage ferocity were the consequences of a change of situation, these unhappy royalists, of whom I have before spoken, when they were delivered up, experienced the most studied barbarity, being thrust into a ditch, and murdered in cold blood! some were shot at, others staked, and the rest mangled in triumph and unfeeling horror! Here the guillotine would have been an instrument of mercy. Colonel Paterson, and some few artillery and seamen, were annexed to the army that surrendered.

" Our misfortunes on this island seem to have originated at the unfortunate attack of Point à Petre. On that occasion we had plenty of troops, and had possession of every strong post, to have driven the enemy from the town, and to have recovered the Fleur d'Epée, almost without loss. But no fixed plan being given out for the attack, the successful fire and well-laid ambush of the French, which, by an encouragement to advance, ensured a repulse, and poor James being wounded, none knew the direct point for which the movement was intended — confusion and carnage ensued, and the bugle sounded in vain.

" At that season of the year, and thus situated, your royal highness must know the impossibility of another effort; and I conclude, in proportion as our abilities became enfeebled, the spirits of the enemy became elated; which, together with the mortality occasioned by the climate, and the depression mostly accompanying defeat, have produced the consequences I have already stated, in the recent surrender of our camp in the vicinity of Petit Bourg; and left us no other possession in Guadaloupe than the fort at

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 34.

Basse Terre (Fort Matilda,) commanded by General Prescott, with a garrison of about 400 men; the Palmiste being entirely destroyed, and the guns and mortars burst, and rendered useless. The enemy opened their first battery of two guns and a mortar from Morne Houel, the day after the Blanche's arrival, and others were constructing on the hill which so immediately commands it."

Fort Matilda surrendered on the 10th of December, 1794.

Captain Faulknor, on the 30th of December, cut out a corvette from under a battery at Deseada: he had two men killed and five wounded. The next day he captured an armed schooner laden with gunpowder, near Fort Louis, Guadaloupe.

On the 10th of May, General Prescott, the governor of Martinico, under the orders of Sir Charles Grey and Sir J. Jervis, issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of that island: they were required to choose representatives, who were to fix, in an equitable manner, a general contribution (the amount of which (it said) shall be made known to them), to be paid by all who possess property in the colony—the commander-in-chief having decided that such an arrangement would be more convenient than a general confiscation.

Another proclamation was issued upon the 20th of May,[*] in which it was said, that no attention having been paid to that of the 10th, requiring representatives to raise a sum of money adequate to the value of the conquest destined to reward the valour, to compensate the fatigue, and its consequences, sickness and mortality, and to make good the heavy expence incurred by the British officers, &c. who, with matchless perseverance, &c. had achieved the conquest of the island, subjected it to the British government, rescued from a wretched exile the greatest number of its inhabitants, &c., the procrastination of this arrangement having prevented several of the inhabitants from carrying their commodities to market;—the commanders, in order to remove an evil of such importance, do enact and ordain—

"1. The civil commissaries, in their respective parishes, to deliver an exact list of the inhabitants, with the number of slaves, cattle, acres of land, &c. and a specification of all productions made and gathered on such estate, wherein ought to be distinguished those made and collected before the 23d of March.

"2. The civil commissaries in towns and boroughs to deliver a list of the houses, slaves, &c. enumerating all sorts of property.

"3. The civil commissaries were required to demand all account-books, &c. belonging to French captains or agents, and an exact account of all property falling under the description of vacant succession in the colony, with a correct inventory of all the goods, &c. belonging to such as had been captured in arms, killed during the

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Annual Register, 1795, p. 130.

siege, or banished the island, and a specification of the property of all persons resident in France.

"4. The commissaries were to name all persons who appeared not disposed to fulfil the purpose of the proclamation.

"5. The reports were to be made with the utmost expedition, as it was the firm resolution of the commanders to have the present measure fully executed, or, on failure of it, to enforce a general confiscation.

1795.

The naval store-keeper at Jamaica was concerned in supplying Martinico with a counterfeit coin called stampees: they were made at Birmingham, and sent over by the gross. The affair was represented to government by Admiral Sir H. Parker, and an inquiry instituted. The profit upon the stampees, to the issuer, was estimated at 500 per cent. Joes and johannes, and two-sous pieces, were offered to be supplied from the same mint, by Mr. Bullock, the maker—the base metal joes at four shillings and sixpence; gold ones at one pound three shillings and nine-pence; two-sous pieces at three shillings per gross. A joe is an eight dollar piece.

Mr. Bullock, in his letter, September 1795, says—"I have had application from St. Kitt's, Tortola, and Martinico, but not liking the mode of payment, have not executed these orders."

At Grenada, a detachment of French troops from Guadaloupe joined the insurgents. After some checks, the British compelled their enemies to take refuge in the mountains.

Victor Hugues sent another detachment of troops from Guadaloupe to Dominica; who, assisted by some runaway Negroes and disaffected inhabitants, committed great devastations. The exertions of the English inhabitants, who assisted the regular troops, obliged the enemy to submit. Several were executed as traitors, and about 600 French inhabitants sent to England.

At daylight upon the 4th of January, Captain Faulknor, in his Majesty's ship Blanche, discovered a French frigate at anchor outside the harbour of Point à Petre, in Guadaloupe: he immediately stood in within gun-shot of Fort Fleur d'Epée; but finding that the Frenchman did not appear inclined to come out from under the batteries, Captain Faulknor made sail after a schooner, which he detained, and stood over to Dominica with her in tow. At eight P.M. he observed the frigate about two leagues astern, and immediately tacked and made sail for her. At a quarter past midnight, Captain Faulknor passed under her lee, on the starboard tack: both ships exchanged broadsides in passing upon opposite

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Report of Commissioners of Naval Inquiry, Naval Chronicle, vol. ix. p. 456.
Annual Register, 1795, pp. 15. 254.

tacks, and Captain Faulknor tacked. When within musket shot, the French wore; the Blanche did the same, and engaged her nearly aboard. At one A.M. the Blanche ran across her stern, and soon afterwards, Captain Faulknor himself lashed the French ship's bowsprit to the capstern of his own ship. At a quarter past two, La Pique dropped astern: at this time Captain Faulknor was killed, and the Blanche had lost her main and mizen masts. The English now, with a hawser, lashed La Pique well fast, with her bowsprit on the Blanche's starboard quarter, and shot away all her masts. In this situation they towed her, running before the wind, and firing into her bows until a quarter past five, when the French hailed that they had struck.

Lieutenant Milne and ten men then swam on board, and took possession of La Pique, of twenty-six twelve pounders, eight nine, and four thirty-two pound carronades, and 400 men, of whom seventy-six were killed, 110 wounded, and thirty lost with the masts. The English had eight killed, including Captain Faulknor, and twenty-one wounded.

Admiral Jervis and General Sir C. Grey, in vindicating their conduct in the West Indies, pleaded their secret instructions to consider the French government, having no legal authority, as an usurpation, and its supporters as rebels and traitors. In conformity to this policy, the subjects of the national convention were in many instances sent away, their estates sequestered, and receivers appointed for the benefit of the government; the captors, in no one instance, deriving any emolument from them.

The property of republican agents in the towns of St. Pierre and Fort Royal, which were both taken by assault, they considered as unquestionable booty; it was there in order to be shipped to France, on account of the republic. The planters resident on the island had likewise sent produce to St. Pierre's, to be shipped or sold; and this was considered lawful prize, because the proprietors either resisted his Majesty's forces, or declined accepting the terms of the proclamation of the 1st of January. No other private property of any description was molested; and although St. Pierre was taken by storm, the shops were open next day, and the inhabitants transacting business as usual. The provisions and necessaries supplied to the navy and army were regularly paid for.

These commanders asserted, that the complaints against them were made by British adventurers, who were disappointed of getting the prize property cheap, many of whom had been long in the habit of carrying on commerce with the French islands, and were deeply concerned with the planters in Martinico. The commanders designate the memorials from the merchants and agents as "equally unfounded in fact, and destitute of candour;" and, in support of their assertion, published a letter from a merchant at St. Vincent's,

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Memoirs of Sir J. Jervis, Naval Chronicle, vol. iv. p. 15.

wherein it is stated, that the speculators were "every one equally disappointed.—The produce has been all appraised by gentlemen from the different islands; and it is the direction (he says) from the admiral and general, that the agents do not let a cask of it be sold under that appraisement; so the full value will be obtained otherwise."

With respect to their conduct at St. Lucia, the same commanders state, that the island was conquered by force, and the inhabitants not entitled to the benefits of the proclamation, but liable to be treated as enemies. To induce the conquerors to waive their claims, an arrangement was proposed, and £300,000 mentioned as an equivalent—a sum infinitely short of the value of the produce then upon the island! This sum was reduced to £150,000, to be paid at three instalments of £50,000 each, one in each of the years 1794, 1795, and 1796. This was accepted; but "the captors were defrauded of every ounce of property taken on the island, except the arms and military stores applied to the service of the public."

The commanders admit their proclamation to be improperly worded; and that instead of "to raise a sum of money adequate to the value of the conquest," it ought to have been "adequate to the value of the property liable to confiscation," which, they assert, was all they meant. But, "as not a single farthing was collected," and "the project abandoned before it was known that his Majesty disapproved of contributions, they ought not," they say, "to be loaded with every sort of malevolent misrepresentation and abuse."

Mr. Thelluson's memorial, which states the quiet submission of the white inhabitants of St. Pierre's, Martinico, the commanders say, "is positively and absolutely false," and "the whole memorial founded in falsehood and misrepresentations, neither sanctioned by names, nor supported by any document or evidence."

The whole of the property taken, both afloat and on shore, (excepting arms and military stores,) produced £183,000, the commanders' proportion of which was £11,437 each.

Brigadier-General Meyers having taken the command at St. Vincent's, ordered Major Ecuyer, who commanded at Ouia, to march, on a day named, towards Mount Young; stating also, his intention of moving, with the main army, at the same time, towards Ouia; the enemy's country lying between them, and woods stopping their retreat on one side, and the sea on the other, it was expected that they must surrender at discretion or be cut to pieces.

Major Ecuyer advanced accordingly, but supposing that he was exposing his men to be cut off, he halted, and waited three or four days in the open air, expecting the advance of the general. At the expiration of that time the enemy collected round him, and his men became fatigued; he therefore determined to return to Ouia, and sent an officer to head quarters, to say that he had done so. The night succeeding his return, about one o'clock in the morning, he

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Memoirs of Sir J. Jervis, vol. iv. p. 30. Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 228.

was completely surprised by 600 of the enemy, who got possession of the camp, and put all they found to the sword; some few men escaped through the woods to Morne Rhonde, and some were taken from the shore by the boats of his Majesty's ship Experiment, Captain Barrett. From Ouia the Caribs sent to St. Lucia for reinforcements, and in a few days were joined by 500 men: Mount Young was evacuated in consequence on the 19th of September; every thing was destroyed that could not conveniently be carried away: and leaving lights in the huts, the troops marched out in the night. At Biabou they collected the party stationed there, and the whole reached Zion Hill on the 21st. On the evening of the 22d the enemy appeared in force in Mariaqua Valley, and on the following morning were posted on Fairbain's Ridge, thus cutting off all communication with the Vigie. The necessity of supplying this post with provisions obliged the general to risk a convoy for that purpose. Eighty laden mules, under the care of Lieutenant-Colonel Ritchie of the 60th, left Greathead's house near Zion Hill at two o'clock in the evening of the 24th. At Calliaqua they turned up, in a direction to get between the enemy and the Vigie; but from behind a "galba hedge" which flanked the path, the enemy commenced a sharp fire; the troops, however, gained the ridge, and obliged their opponents to fall back; orders were then given to charge, by Captain Forster, who commanded in front; "not an individual would obey him: from some unaccountable cause our men gave way just in the moment of victory, and fled in different directions, closely pursued by the enemy. The greatest part of the provisions fell into their hands; our loss was estimated at about sixty men killed and taken prisoners;" the rest found shelter under the guns on Sir William Young's Rock. Colonel Ritchie with about twenty men retired to a mill belonging to Dr. Collins, where they repulsed several attempts which were made to storm the place: at midnight they abandoned the mill, and retired to Sir William Young's Rock. Colonel Ritchie died of his wounds.

Twenty-eight "johannes" were now offered to any person who would deliver a letter to the commanding officer at the Vigie; should he be a slave his liberty was promised. Two slaves volunteered the attempt; one was obliged to return; but Tamaun, a Negro, with his dispatch rolled in a piece of thin lead to preserve it from rain, and in case of detection to enable him to throw it away, escaped detection in Mariaqua Valley by lying flat upon his face while a Carib came out of a hut close to him, cut some wood and returned to make a fire. Tamaun then descended a precipice, by the roots and branches of the trees growing on its side, and at daylight, from a high tree, saw that he was nearer the Vigie than he expected. By six o'clock on the morning of the 26th the advanced guard carried him to the commanding officer's tent, who, in com-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 229. 231.

pliance with the dispatch, abandoned the Vigie at seven o'clock the same evening, arrived at Calliaqua without molestation; and from thence with his men was conveyed in boats to Sir William Young's Island and Rock.

Captain Molesworth also evacuated the post at Morne Rhonde. The Vigie was once more occupied by the enemy, to the great alarm of the inhabitants. On the 29th his Majesty's ship Scipio arrived with a convoy of transports, having on board the 40th, 54th, and 59th regiments, who were landed without delay. The enemy called in all their out-posts and made every exertion to strengthen the Vigie. At ten o'clock on the night of the 1st of October, 750 men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Strutt, marched by Calliaqua to the heights of Calder, where they lay concealed in a piece of standing corn.

Major-General Irving and Brigadier-General Meyers with the main body, about 1000 strong, marched at two o'clock from Greathead's house to Warawaroa Valley. At Augur's Pasture, Captain Boland of the 40th regiment was detached with 350 men, to gain the heights to the westward of the enemy's position. He was attacked in his ascent, but gallantly, though with considerable loss, gained the place. The two generals, with the 59th regiment, gained Fairbairn's Ridge by day break. To oppose their ascent from thence to the Vigie Ridge, the enemy posted their whole force on a small eminence, covered with a thick wood. The 59th, under Major M'Cleod, persevered in their attempts to climb the mountain, under a heavy fire of musketry, until the generals ordered them to retreat as it became dark. 100 men were killed and wounded in this unsuccessful attack.

The enemy, apprehensive of being attacked again during the night, and having almost expended their ammunition, abandoned the Vigie in the night, managing the thing so well that it was first discovered by accident. A drunken man, who had been a spectator of the action, lost his way back during the retreat, as did a sergeant and ten men of the 5th regiment: a Negro in the interest of the enemy offered to guide them to town, but instead of so doing betrayed them into the Vigie, with the intention of making them prisoners, when, finding that his friends had abandoned the place, he did so also, and left these men in possession of the Vigie. In the morning General Irving sent Lieutenant Kelly to take possession of that post, which he found pre-occupied by his drunken countryman, who is said to have refused him admittance until he had agreed to sign a receipt for the place.

Mount Young and Mount William now became the enemy's principal posts, and upon these they entrenched themselves. About the 16th of November the English took post on Forbes' Ridge, and from thence harassed their opponents with both shot and shell.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 231. 232. 233. 235. 236.

On the 29th Brigadier-General Stuart assumed the command, upon the resignation of General Irvine, and with a few inconsiderable skirmishes the year closed.

1796.

In Jamaica, by the 15th of January, 91 men, 111 women and 124 children, Maroons, had surrendered to General Walpole; and the next day Lord Balcarres had in his possession 400, of whom 130 were men.

General Walpole differed in opinion with Lord Balcarres; he had promised, in a secret article, that the Maroons should not be sent off the island. Lord Balcarres appointed ten o'clock on the 1st of January for them to come in and perform the treaty — this General Walpole found did not allow them time, however well disposed they might be. Upon the 17th he says, in his letter to Lord Balcarres, "I hope your lordship will not think me unreasonable in requesting, at the termination of this rebellion, your permission to return to Europe, with a view to obtain his Majesty's consent, at a general peace, to a sale of my commission."

Lord Balcarres calls them "quicksilver rebels," and suggests, that as a rumour may reach them, that they had not surrendered soon enough to be benefited by the terms of the treaty, which would make them uneasy — that their numbers resident with General Walpole may be reduced by every means he could devise.

Upon the 18th, General Walpole states, that thirty-two were still out. On the 20th, Lord Balcarres gives him permission to keep any number under ten, and their families may remain with them; but he adds, "I confess I shall enjoy no ease until I hear that all the rest are actually in Montego Bay.

On the 21st, General Walpole says, "I have given assurances to the Maroons of a little longer indulgence for the coming in of their families, some few of whom, from sickness, are still with the remaining Maroons in the woods." On the 22d of January, Lord Balcarres writes to General Walpole, "It will be difficult, I may say impossible, for me to meet the legislature until this measure is effected" [sending the Maroons to Montego Bay]. "It will be impracticable for me to inform the assembly that these people have surrendered, unless I can give a much more solid proof of it than the information of their skipping about in Old Town." On the 23d General Walpole replies, "I am not so fortunate as to coincide with your way of thinking, and my reason is, that a very different line of conduct has produced the success which we have already experienced, and if pursued will probably produce more; the dogs had certainly nothing to do with it." Lord Balcarres

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Proceedings against the Maroons. pp. 31-37.

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answers the same day, "When I enforce the measure of sending these Maroons to Montego Bay, I surely take off from you all responsibility respecting the bad effects of our taking such a step, for which I am alone answerable. I therefore most earnestly and pointedly request, that all the Maroons may be sent to Montego Bay." General Walpole answers, the same date, "Another batch of Maroons have just set off for Montego Bay, making from 90 to 100 men capable of bearing arms." On the 24th, sixty-seven were sent off. On the 26th, General Walpole requests permission to send Smith, the Maroon, with eight others, to persuade the rest to come in. On the 27th, Lord Balcarres replies, "that to allow him to do so would be in contradiction to the spirit of his orders. The opinions of his Majesty's confidential servants are fixed and determined on the principles of carrying on this war: nothing can be left, under these circumstances, to your discretion. My orders therefore are, that the Maroons be sent down immediately to Montego Bay, — when the dogs are out, not when the dogs are in. They ought to march by moonlight." On the 26th, General Walpole reports, from Old Maroon Town, that "Colonel Skinner speaks highly *of the activity and utility of the Spaniards and their dogs;*" and next day states, "that about twenty of the Maroons are now here, chiefly Smith's and Johnstone's families, and I did suppose that it had been left to my discretion to have retained that number; but they can be sent down on Friday, if your lordship should not alter your opinion. I thank your lordship for leaving nothing to my discretion; discretionary orders are too apt to be civil, and consequently not very precise. Your lordship will have the goodness to say, whether any and how many Maroons may be left here." On the 28th he states, "Johnstone and Smith have again assured me, that if I will go with them, or Skinner, they think that every man now out may be brought in. They will go with soldiers, but not dogs." Lord Balcarres replies, "that Smith's application to go out without dogs convinces him that they had not a moment to lose. The best and most agreeable news that could possibly reach me to-morrow forenoon would be, to hear that all the Maroons are secured and marched off to Montego Bay. I am on thorns until that moment arrives."

On the 29th, General Walpole reports his having sent the Maroons to Montego Bay, and regrets that the opportunity of bringing in the others should be lost. On the 31st, he states that he had been to Montego Bay, and from the crowded state of the barracks he apprehended some disorders would break out among the Maroons, and suggests planking the stables for them, and he asks for 1000 or 1200 Negroes as pioneers, "to get with all possible dispatch through the remainder of the work."

Lord Balcarres says, "his requisition will startle the country,

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Proceedings against the Maroons, p. 53.

and that roads and communications should not be made without an act of the legislature;" and adds, "I think you give much more consideration to the present state of the war than either I or the country do.—Your request to have nothing left to your discretion is totally incompatible with the very high situation in which you are placed; and the great opinion I have had of the proper exercise of that discretion assuredly will justify the favorable report I have made to his Majesty of your services." His lordship then asks for a return of the arms brought in. The reply is ninety-five—and the general adds, "I must repeat, that if your lordship had had the different communications and conferences on the spot, that you would then have been more of my opinion."

On February the 2d, Lord Balcarres states to General Walpole, "My object has been to keep myself free and uncommitted; by no means to cramp you in any point that I am not forced to.—I do not know your opinion respecting the treaty, nor do I desire to know it; I have formed my own, and must declare it when I am called upon. You will of course take every means in your power to get in or destroy the rebels who are still out. But what I have anxiously wished for, namely, the securing the persons of these Maroons, has been executed, and I can now report with correctness and security: while these people remained in the Old Town, I could advance nothing but with incorrectness and insecurity. You may always keep any three Maroon men with you that you fix upon (Montague, James, and old Jarrett excepted), but no terms can be held to the rebels now out." His lordship then states his intention of sending 160 Maroons from Montego Bay to St. Ann's. On February the 12th, the general reports, that Johnson had brought in six Maroons, with a number of women and children—that the remainder, seeing their countrymen sent off to Montego Bay, have construed it into treachery on our part. "I am told," he says, "that some came to surrender, and upon this went back to the woods. Their want of water is, I understand, extreme; they cannot get any but what they draw from the wild pines. I have offered no terms but lives." The general adds, that the want of water prevented his attending the Maroon party with a detachment of troops; but he was satisfied of their fidelity, and recommends seven of them by name. On the 18th, he mentions his intention of cutting a road to Pond River, the place where the Maroons made their last stand, in order to avail himself of the water, in case any expedition should be sent into the woods; he also complains of the commissioners not furnishing provisions. On the 20th Lord Balcarres says, "I am convinced the country will be of opinion, that martial law ought not to be continued. If, however, the banditti of runaway slaves have gone down to Old Womans Savanna, the 14th light dragoons must occupy posts in that neighbourhood; the country

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Proceedings against the Maroons, p. 65.

that lies behind it, I believe, never was explored." On the 29th, his lordship complains, "that some Maroons have been permitted to go from Montego Bay to Falmouth unguarded, and orders them all to be strictly guarded." The Maroons residing in Westmorland were ordered to be liberated, as they had no connection with the rebel town. On March the 4th Lord Balcarres says, "The country is extremely alarmed at the circumstance of several of the Maroon prisoners having been seen at St. Ann's, going at large without guards; I beg that no relaxation may take place respecting guarding against all possible escape of any of these Maroons."

General Walpole, on the 5th, congratulates his lordship upon "having again the opportunity of finally and effectually terminating the rebellion." He says, "I shall grant lives only. I have been too scandalously traduced already, to exert my judgment for the public good. Notwithstanding your lordship's ratification of the terms heretofore granted, I shall endeavour to keep the matter afloat till I may be honoured with your lordship's commands, for I cannot but apprehend that they may make some effort to get to windward, desperate as it may appear, should they be dealt with too rigidly in their conceptions. On the 9th Lord Balcarres replies, "In your letter of the 5th instant, you write me that you have been too scandalously traduced already to exert your judgment for the public good, notwithstanding my ratification of the terms heretofore granted. This I do know, that all public men every where will be traduced by restless and violent characters; but my ratifying the treaty which you signed sufficiently marks the support which I gave to that measure, and the respectable council that advised me to ratify it bears you out as well as myself. — It stands on the minutes taken at that council, 'that provided the Maroons performed the first and third articles of the treaty, that the secret articles should be complied with.' Every man, however, will form his own opinion as to those two points; — first, whether or not the treaty is a wise one; secondly, if it has been performed. As to the first and second articles, my mind is made up upon the subject, and my opinion is, that if force had not been sent out against them, in conformity to my orders of the 14th of January, issued in consequence of my receiving your letter of that date, they would not have come in at all. I am perfectly aware of the favourable opinion you have of the Smiths and Johnstone, and I shall represent it to the assembly at a proper time. I wish to make a remark upon the first part of your letter of the 5th, which runs in these words, 'I give you joy of having again the opportunity of finally and effectually terminating the rebellion.' This, I presume, alludes to the circumstance of your wishing to keep the Maroon prisoners at the Maroon town, instead of sending them to the coast; I really cannot state this to have been a difference of opinion between yourself and me, and I am free to

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Proceedings against the Maroons, p. 65.

confess, that their remaining in that situation might have been an inducement for those still out to have come in. But I thought it was playing too deep a game, and if the Maroons had given us the slip, I should have had a dreadful reckoning to account to the King, this country, and my own tranquillity of mind."

The general replies, on the 11th, "I send you a private letter: make what use of it you please. The Maroons could make out a stronger case than is imagined. If Palmer and Parkinson should refuse the terms, which I think they will, you never will conquer them; I shall offer the terms, and there leave the matter. I will not, nor shall any thing induce me to avail myself of that reliance which I see they have in me, until I am certain that no deceit is intended; I will not be accessary to so foul a crime. Could not a company of rangers be formed from them, agreeable to the hints which I once laid before you, and the rest dispersed about as free citizens, like the people of colour? One word as to the freedom allowed the Maroons: Montego Bay barrack is not secure; it is best therefore not to seem to mistrust them."

"My dear Lord, (*Private.*) March 11, 1796.

"I must trouble your lordship with a few words in privacy and confidence. For some days past I have been in a state of considerable uneasiness at a report which seems to gain ground, that the legislature mean to infringe the capitulation accepted by me and ratified by your lordship. My lord, to be plain with you, it was through my means alone that the Maroons were induced to surrender, from a reliance which they had in my word, and from a conviction impressed upon them by me, that the white people would never break their faith. All these things strongly call upon me, as the instrumental agent in this business, to see a due observance of the terms, or in case of violation to resign my command; and if that should not be accepted, to declare the facts to the world, and to leave them to judge how far I ought or ought not to be implicated in the guilt and infamy of such a proceeding. So much the more strong is this call upon me, as there was no occasion to ratify the terms; for your lordship will recollect that I told you at Castle Wemyss, that the time appointed by me for fulfilling them was expired, and the terms therefore null and void; but your lordship then thought that there was so much of advantage to the country in those terms, that it would be best not to give them up. As the great object of the war is now declared to be accomplished, I shall shortly solicit your lordship for permission to return to England, with an intention to retire from the service.

"I am your lordship's most faithful and obedient,

"Earl Balcarres. "S. Walpole."

Proceedings against the Maroons, p. 83.

On the 13th of March, the general writes again, "Your lordship has, I well know, been of opinion, that the force sent out on the 14th induced the Maroons to come in. I think not; and my opinion is grounded on this fact, that I met the Maroons about half a mile from the advanced post, coming in with loads on their backs of clothes and children. They must therefore have moved more than half way the day before, and certainly no one knew of my motions here. The wisdom of the treaty cannot be much doubted, as treble the number of troops would not have brought in so many Maroons in twelve months more. The opinions of the field officers on the spot have never differed. I am anxious to keep my faith with the Maroons now surrendered. Sure I am, that Jamaica has been saved by the terms of surrender, and that the not adhering to them may be productive one day or other of the loss of the colony."

On the 16th of March, Lord Balcarres replies, "the country has a right to every advantage which the treaty affords it. I shall leave it to the legislature to decide whether the treaty has been observed or not. Those strong sentiments which you have expressed relative to the Maroons shall be fairly canvassed. If there is any thing upon earth in which a legislature has a right to exercise its judgment, it is internal rebellion. I regret your determination of quitting the service."

James Galloway, Esquire, was appointed sole commissioner for embarking all the Maroons.

March 21st. The general reports the coming in of the remainder of the Maroons by "Parkinson's party, thirty-six bearing arms, and requests permission for Charles Samuels, a Maroon, to remain with him." On the next day he writes, "My wish to retire was in a great degree connected with a presage which I had of future circumstances with regard to the Maroons; perhaps these may now be altered. I was fearful lest it should seem that I had drawn the Maroons into a treaty which I knew was hereafter to be broken; my resignation was meant to declare my entire ignorance of such an intention."

The joint committees of the legislature met on the 20th of April, and came to the following resolutions:—

"1. That it is the opinion of the joint committee, that all runaway slaves, who joined the Trelawney Maroons in rebellion, ought to be dealt with according to law.

"2. That all persons of free condition who joined the rebels ought to be dealt with according to law.

"3. That the thirty-one Maroons who surrendered at Vaughansfield, under the proclamation of the 8th of August, together with the six deputies taken up at Saint Ann's, having come in before any

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Proceedings against the Maroons, pp. 84. 86. 91. 99.

actual hostilities commenced, should be sent off the island, and some settlement provided for them in another country.

"4. That Smith, Dunbar, and Williams, with their wives and children, and the two boys who came in on the 1st of January, are entitled to the benefit of the treaty.

"5. That all the Maroons who are confined in Kingston, Falmouth, and elsewhere, that have petitioned the honourable house of assembly to take the benefit of an act passed in the year 1791, not having been at any time in rebellion, be allowed to do so, acccording to the prayer of their petition.

"6. That the Maroons who petitioned the lieutenant-governor on the 3d of November, the thirty-one who surrendered at Vaughansfield excepted, being also guiltless of any act of rebellion, be likewise admitted to take the benefit of the said act.

"7th. That all the Maroons who surrendered after the 1st of January, and until the 10th of March last, (within which period Johnstone and his party came in,) not having complied with the terms of the treaty, are not entitled to the benefit thereof, and ought to be shipped off the island; but the joint committee are of opinion that they ought to be sent to a country in which they will be free, and such as may be best calculated by situation to secure the island against the danger of their return: that they ought to be provided with suitable clothing and necessaries for the voyage, and maintained at the public expence of this island for a reasonable time after their arrival at the place of their destination.

"8th. That Parkinson and Palmer, and all the Maroons who came in with them, are entitled to their lives only, but ought to be sent off the island; and as their conduct was marked with aggravated guilt, they ought, in the manner of their being sent off the island, to be dealt with more rigorously than those in the class mentioned in the preceding resolution.

"9th. That as there may be among the rebels a few, who by their repentance, services, and good behaviour, since their surrender, may have merited protection and favour, that it be recommended to his honour the lieutenant governor to permit such to remain in the island, together with their wives and children, and to distinguish them by any other marks of favour, as his honour in his discretion may think proper.

"10th. That the lieutenant-governor, in complying with the matters mentioned and recommended in the preceding resolutions, shall be fully indemnified at the public expence."

April the 22d, the house of assembly ordered 700 guineas to be remitted to London, to purchase a sword for the Earl of Balcarres, and 500 guineas for the purchase of one for the Honourable Major-General Walpole; and requested their thanks to be given to the regulars and militia.

Proceedings against the Maroons, p. 74.

Lord Balcarres in his answer says, he will transmit the precious gift to his posterity, as an everlasting mark of the reverence, attachment, and gratitude which he bears to the island of Jamaica.

Major-General Walpole was dissatisfied with the resolution of the legislature to transport the Maroons from the country, and refused the sword they voted him for his services in subduing them.

In June his Majesty's ship Dover, with two transports, having on board about 600 Maroons, sailed for Halifax; they were provided with necessaries for the voyage and for the change of climate, and arrived at Halifax in July.

Upon the 25th of November an express boat arrived at St. Kitt's, with the information that the French, in two ships of war and several small vessels with about 400 men, had attacked the island of Anguilla. Captain R. Barton, in his Majesty's ship Lapwing, immediately proceeded to the relief of the island. The wind being from the northward prevented his getting there in time to save the town from being burnt; but after an action of two hours, he relieved the island, by taking the ship and sinking the brig. The ship was Le Decius of twenty-four six pounders, two twelve pound carronades, and two brass field pieces, with 133 men of her own complement, and 203 troops, commanded by Citoyen Andre Senis; and the brig La Vaillante, mounting four twenty-four pounders, with forty-five men and ninety troops, commanded by Citoyen Laboutique: they were picked troops, sent by Victor Hughes for the sole purpose of destroying the island. They landed on the 26th, and committed acts of great cruelty. It is said Victor Hughes' instructions to the officers were to exterminate the inhabitants. "The French burnt the little town, pulled down the church, stabbed men in their houses, and stripped women of their clothes."[1]

Edwards, vol. i. pp. 571. 576. Annual Register, 1797, p. 13.
Captain Barton's Official Letter, p. 21. Admiral H. Harvey's Official Letter.
Six Months in the West Indies in 1825.

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[1] "To Robert Barton, Esq., Commander of his Majesty's ship Lapwing, the Address of the Inhabitants of St. Christopher's, on his recent success against the Land and Sea Forces destined for the reduction of Anguilla, presented by a Deputation from the Island at large.

"Deputations from a whole community are not common, because it rarely happens that actions so brilliant as to excite general admiration are performed; but your success, Sir, is of a nature so glorious to yourself, so honourable to the service in which you are engaged, so fortunate and critical for the inhabitants of Anguilla, that a sister colony would be insensible not to feel, and ungrateful not to acknowledge it.

"It is not, however, by our acknowledgments or emotions that your deserts can be expressed, they are proclaimed by the tongues and engraven on the hearts of the people you have saved; whom a merciless enemy doomed to destruction, and whom you rescued from the horrors with which they were menaced.

"These devoted people hail you as their deliverer, bless you for the security and happiness to which they are restored; and while they recite your actions, will perpetuate your name in the traditions of their country, and the memories of their children. Nor do the testimonies of your honour cease here; even your enemies bear witness to the value of your exertions, and the importance of your victory. They tell

On the appearance of the Lapwing they reimbarked the troops in the night of the 26th, and the following morning early the Lapwing brought them to action: the Decius had eighty men killed and forty wounded. The brig ran on shore on St. Martin's. The next day the Lapwing was chased by two large French frigates.

Early in the year General Nicholls received reinforcements at Grenada, and commenced active operations. In the beginning of March he attacked the French at Port Royal, and was beat back with considerable loss; the second attempt succeeded: he carried their works by storm, and only six prisoners were taken. After this signal defeat and dreadful loss, the insurgents submitted.

Upon the 10th of June, the French in Grenada, under their commandant Jossy, surrendered all their posts, by capitulation, to the British under Major-General Nicholls. On the 19th the British were in full possession of every established post which the enemy had. Fedon, with a few of his associates, escaped into the woods.

Several of the French inhabitants had joined the insurgents, and now surrendered themselves to General Nicholls, who sent them to the Lieutenant-Governor Houstoun, to be tried by the civil power. Upon the 20th of June, fifty persons were put to the bar in the course of the day; all of them were found to be the persons named in the bill of attainder, the whole of whom were ordered to be executed, at eight A.M. the following day, as traitors.

On the 1st of July, fourteen of the most criminal were executed upon the parade at St. George's; the rest were respited by the Lieutenant-Governor Houstoun.

A canoe was found at some distance from the island, which had been overset; a compass nailed to her bottom was known to have been one which Fedon had, it was therefore supposed, that, in attempting to escape, he had been drowned.

June the 1st, William Campbell, Esq. was appointed governor of the Bermuda islands.

September the 30th, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Green was appointed governor of Grenada.

The Methodists in Grenada assert the especial favour of Provi-

Annual Register, 1796, pp. 78. 258.—1797, p. 14. General Graham's Letter. Monthly Magazine, August, 1796, p. 579.

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it whenever they mention their losses and disappointments, the destruction of their shipping, and the slaughter of their men. They tell it too, not indeed so loudly, but much more emphatically, whenever they mention your humanity and goodness, your care of the wounded, your anxiety for their preservation when the Decius was sinking, your endeavours and success in rescuing from the waves such as the fury of the battle had blindly driven into them; while saying this, they acknowledge that mercy and courage are the inseparable associates of noble minds, and that the honour of the union is yours."

Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 76.

dence towards their society. In February the Reverend Mr. Dent says, "I cannot help mentioning a singular instance of the goodness of Divine Providence to our poor little flock in Grenada. They have all been eminently loyal from the commencement of our troubles; and though the men have been as much exposed as any other soldiers, and have undergone as much fatigue, yet I know not of one that has been killed or wounded, or that has died of disease, either of the men or women. We are assured, that when the righteous are removed by death, they are taken away from the evil to come. But to be spared, when inhabitants are so much wanted, is a very great mercy and kindness to the living."

Upon the 10th of November the mob at Nevis attacked the Methodist chapel, threw a large squib into it, and set it on fire. The fire was speedily extinguished; but the congregation, assailed with swords and bludgeons, were obliged to disperse, and some of the coloured people "were obliged to flee from the island to preserve their lives." This outrage was committed, from the general belief that the Methodists "were connected with Mr. Wilberforce in England, to support his application to parliament to abolish the slave trade." The missionary applied to the magistrates for assistance, and was effectually relieved.

The number of Methodists in society in Barbadoes did not exceed fifty.

In October the Methodists in Dominica had "nearly eighty in class." In the same month the missionary was ordered to appear in the field on the ensuing Sunday, to learn the use of arms. He presented a petition to the president, praying to be exempted from military service, in order that he might attend to his ministerial duties. The president, after he had heard the petition, told him, that he had been informed he was a very suspicious character, who disseminated pernicious doctrines among the slaves; and instead of being exempted from military duty, he would compel him to quit the island, and gave him an order accordingly, with which order he was obliged to comply, to avoid imprisonment.

In May, the numbers of Methodists in society in the British Virgin Islands were as follows: — In Tortola, 2624; in Peter's Island, 49; in Jost Vandykes, 76; in Spanish Town, 299; in Anegada, 82: "amounting in the whole to more than 3000 souls." In Spanish Town they began to build a chapel, for which purpose the inhabitants subscribed £300.

Upon the 18th of October, Captain Evans, in his Majesty's sloop Fury, between the islands of St. Thomas and Santa Cruz, captured L'Elize, French national schooner, carrying ten guns and fifty-six men, from Cape François bound to St. Thomas.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 81. 154. 356.; vol. iii. pp. 21. 119.
Admiral H. Harvey's Letter.

Although the British parliament voted, in 1792, that the slave trade should cease upon the 1st of January this year, yet when Mr. Wilberforce, on the 18th of February, moved that the slave trade be abolished, the motion was lost by a majority of four.

Though the legislature of the Bahamas had laid a tax of £90 currency on manumissions, in 1784, the odious innovation was so unpopular, the assembly report, that it was never carried into execution, and that it was repealed this year; since which period no tax or other restraint upon enfranchisement has been imposed in that colony.

The English officers in garrison at Demerara, in April, erected a few houses at the mouth of the river, and named the village Kingstown; the garrison hospital was in a village, which increased afterwards in size and consequence.

From a return made to the House of Commons, May 6th, 1806, it appears that Great Britain imported from the British West Indies, 102,227 cwt. of coffee, and 131,200 hhds. of sugar, (of which 33,870 cwt. of coffee, and 83,400 hhds. of sugar, came from Jamaica,) and exported 1,816,584 cwt. of sugar, 5,567,754 gallons of rum, 94,086 cwt. of coffee, and 8,854,413 lbs. of cotton.

The Otaheite sugar-cane was sent from Trinidad to the plantations of Terra Firma. This cane is "at least double the size of the Creole cane, is much higher, and consequently contains much more juice."

In May, 7000 men, under the command of Brigadier-General Howe, arrived at Cape St. Nicholas Mole, to reinforce the British troops in St. Domingo.

Admiral Parker and General Forbes proceeded to Leogane, to attempt the recapture of that place.[1] Admiral Parker cannonaded a fort at the entrance of the creek, and General Forbes determined to attempt the place without any regular approaches, protected by a few light guns. A part of the ditch was filled up, over which the

Annual Register, 1796, p. 181.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 417. Bolinbroke's Demerary, p. 81.
Depon's South America, vol. i. p. 444. Sir W. Young's Common-place Book,
pp. 16. 29. 30. 32, 33. Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 480.

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[1] *Rear Admiral Sir W. Parker's Squadron, in the unsuccessful attack on the town of Leogane.*

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Swiftsure	74	Rear Admiral Parker. Captain R. Parker.
Leviathan	74	——— J. T. Duckworth.
Africa	64	——— Rod. Home.
Iphigenia	32	——— F. F. Gardner.
Ceres	32	——— J. Newman.
Lark	16	——— W. Ogilvy.
Cormorant	26	——— F. Collingwood.
Serin	16	——— D. Guerin.

The Leviathan had 5 killed and 12 wounded; the Africa, 1 killed and 7 wounded.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xviii. p. 7.

troops marched to the assault; but the fire from an adjacent tower compelled the assailants to abandon both the ditch and their cannon. After this failure the attempt was abandoned.

At Bombarde the British were more successful; but the place was found to be untenable, and abandoned. Rigaud was also compelled by Major-General Bowyer to retire from Trois, and abandon his attempt upon that place, with the loss of 100 men.

December the 3d, Major-General John Graves Simcoe was appointed governor of such parts of St. Domingo as were in the British possession.

Upon the 5th of October, the King of Spain declared war against the King of England, his kingdom and vassals. The reasons assigned for so doing are, that Admiral Hood ruined at Toulon all he could not carry away; that he afterwards attacked the island of Corsica, without communicating his intention of so doing to Don Juan de Langara, who was with him at Toulon; that the English minister, on the 19th of November, 1794, concluded a treaty with the United States of America, without any regard to the Spanish rights; that the cargo of the Spanish ship El Santiago, or L'Achille, which was taken from the French, ought to have been restored to Spain; that some ammunition for the Spanish squadrons was stopped on board some Dutch ships; and that some English ships had landed upon the coasts of Chili and Peru, to carry on a contraband trade, and reconnoitre the shore, under the pretence of fishing for whales: also, because England had sent an army to St. Domingo; and because her merchants had formed establishments upon the banks of the Missouri; and finally, because she had conquered Demerara from the Dutch, which situation puts her in a condition to get possession of posts still more important: that the King of Spain could not doubt the hostile intentions of England, when he considered that her frigates in the Mediterranean had carried away some soldiers, coming from Genoa to Barcelona on board Spanish ships; and that the Corsican corsairs were protected by the English government in that island; and because an embargo was laid upon the Spanish ship Minerva.

The arrest of Don Simon de las Casas, the ambassador at London, was called another outrage. The English ships Camelion and Kangaroo were said to have violated the coasts of Galicia and Alicant. And lastly, it says, "moreover, Captain-General Vaughan, commodore of the Alarm, behaved in a manner equally insolent and scandalous in the island of Trinidad, where he landed, with drums beating and flags flying, to attack the French, and to avenge the injuries which he pretended to have received."

"Dated at the palace of St. Lorenzo, October the 5th, 1796."

On Saturday the 8th of October, war was proclaimed at Madrid in the usual form.

Annual Register, 1796, p. 79. Public Papers. pp. 115—165.

The answer of England is an able paper; refutes all the charges of complaint, and attributes the conduct of Spain to the overwhelming influence of the French in the Spanish councils.

On August the 19th, a treaty of alliance offensive and defensive, between the French republic and the King of Spain, was signed at St. Ildephonso, by Citizen D. C. Perignon and Don M. de Godoi, Prince of Peace. The articles which relate to the West Indies are the 5th and part of the 15th.

"Art. 5. The power called on shall in the same way place at the disposal of the requiring power, within the space of three months, reckoning from the moment of the requisition, 18,000 infantry and 6000 cavalry, with a proportionate train of artillery, ready to be employed in Europe, and for the defence of the colonies which the contracting powers possess in the Gulf of Mexico."

Extract from Art. 15. "The two powers engage to make instantly a common cause, to repress and annihilate the maxims adopted by any country whatever, which may be subversive of their present principles, and which may bring into danger the safety of the neutral flag, and the respect which is due to it, as well as to raise and re-establish the colonial system of Spain on the footing on which it has subsisted, or ought to subsist, conformably to treaties."

About four o'clock on the morning of the 8th of January, the French and Caribs in St. Vincent's attacked the English camp on Forbes' Ridge. Three hundred men, in three divisions, attacked the left, right, and front at the same moment. The left was protected by a three pounder and a cohorn, placed on a tongue of land which ran out about fifty yards, and, from its steepness on each side, was supposed to be almost inaccessible. M. Chenow headed the division which attacked this part. Guided by a deserter, he entered the battery alone, and found the two artillery men, who had charge of the gun, sleeping across it; he then brought his division up, killed the artillery men, and, with a discharge of grape shot from the gun, gave the first intimation to the English that their camp was attacked. This gun having the command of the ridge occupied by the artillery, the whole in a few minutes was entirely lost.

Attacked upon the right and all along the front at the same moment, the troops gave way at all points; the most gallant personal exertions of General Stewart were ineffectual; the army retreated to the block-house at Biabou, the enemy hanging on their rear and right. Fortunately Lieutenant-Colonel Fuller of the 40th, with 200 men, who was on his march from Dorsetshire Hill to the camp, arrived at the critical moment, and routed the Caribs. The troops remained at Biabou until dark; General Stewart then ordered fires to be lighted, resumed his march, and on the 10th occupied

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Annual Register, 1796, p. 165. Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 236.
Gazette. General Stewart's Letter.

the eminences between the Vigie and the sea. Fifty-four English were killed, 109 wounded, and 200 missing. The loss in officers was unusually great in proportion.

General Hunter arrived from Martinico; he immediately drew the whole of the force, except from the Vigie, to the heights surrounding the town, and the passes to Berkshire Hill were carefully strengthened. On the 14th, the enemy in great force in Mariaqua Valley seemed determined to attack the Vigie. At this time its possession was not of sufficient importance to induce General Hunter to risk an action, he therefore ordered it to be evacuated, which was done at ten o'clock, and the enemy immediately marched in. The next day they advanced to Baker's Ridge, and opened a smart cannonade upon Dorsetshire Hill: their shells were injudiciously thrown, and did no damage. A party of Caribs at the same time encamped about Bowe Wood, at the head of Kingstown Valley.

On the morning of the 20th, Lieutenant-Colonel Prevost was ordered to attack the redoubt on Baker's Ridge. He surprised and cut their piquet guard to pieces; but after receiving two wounds from the fire from the redoubt, he retreated to Millar's Ridge, pursued by the exulting enemy. More than twenty times they attempted to gain the summit of the ridge, darkness then obliged them to desist. The same morning the Caribs pursued some straggling soldiers to the camp at Green Hill. Major Jackson went out to attack them, and Major Fraser endeavoured to flank them; but after several hours bush fighting, they set fire to Bow Wood House and retreated. During the action, Lieutenant-Colonel Gower, with 330 of the 63d, anchored in the roads.

On the 24th, a long six-pounder field-piece was mounted on Millar's Ridge; it soon occasioned evident confusion in the enemy's camp, who in the dark retired to the Vigie with their artillery. No further operations were carried on until the arrival of Sir Ralph Abercrombie from St. Lucia on the 8th of June. The troops were immediately landed; and in the afternoon of the following day the whole army, 3960 strong, marched in six divisions from Sion Hill to attack the Vigie; Brigadier-General Knox, with 936 men, to Mariaqua Valley; Major-General Hunter to Calder Ridge, with 1045; Major-General Morshead to Carapan Ridge, with 857; Lieutenant-Colonel Fuller to Ross Ridge, with 573; Lieutenant-Colonel Dickens to Warawaroa Valley, with 317; and Lieutenant-Colonel Spencer, with 232, as a corps de reserve, followed the line of march.

A little before daylight, Lieutenant-Colonel Dickens commenced the attack by carrying a redoubt, which the Caribs abandoned with a slight resistance. After attempting the next post in that direc-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 238, 239, 240, 241.

tion, he was obliged to retreat, with the loss of fifty-one killed and wounded. The Generals Hunter and Morshead by this time opened a cannonade upon the Old Vigie, from their respective stations, the former distant about 500 yards, the latter 300; while a constant fire of musketry was kept up by the men from the adjoining canes. About two o'clock it was deemed practicable to carry the place by storm, and orders to that effect were given. Colonel Blair of the Buffs, and Major Stewart of the 42d regiment, headed the troops; the post was instantly carried, the enemy retreating with great precipitation to their other works, followed as expeditiously by the troops, who carried the two succeeding works in the same gallant manner.

The New Vigie was now the only object to be gained. About five o'clock the artillery was brought forward, and when just about to be opened, and the troops selected for storming, the enemy sent a flag of truce to General Abercrombie, with an offer of surrender, which was accepted, on their delivering up the other posts of Ouia, and Rabacaw and Mount Young, with their garrisons. About noon the next day they marched out with the honours of war, and laid down their arms, 460 men; and the same evening they were embarked on board the transports in the harbour. The English loss was 100 killed and wounded.

The Caribs, reduced to their own resources, sent, on the 15th, overtures of accommodation, on condition of retaining their lands and prerogatives as formerly. "They had burnt our houses and cane fields," they said, "and the English had burned their canoes, and destroyed their provisions; therefore, on the principle of retaliation, we had no just cause of complaint, or any plausible pretext for prolonging an unnecessary war." They were given to understand that nothing short of their unconditional surrender would be attended to, in which case their lives would be spared, and they would be treated with humanity. They requested until the 18th to consult about it, and promised to return an answer then.

On the 15th of July, General Abercrombie sent orders from Martinico to General Hunter to remove the Caribs to the island of Baliseau (one of the Grenadines), and to supply them with necessaries, until orders came from England concerning their future destination. General Hunter communicated his orders to the Carib chiefs on Friday, and if by the following Tuesday they were not complied with, hostilities were to recommence against them.

On Saturday and Sunday numbers came from the mountains, and took their position between the camp and the sea. On Monday morning, one of the chiefs requested an audience of Lieutenant-

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Coke's West Indies, vol ii. pp. 242, 243.

Colonel Haffy, and in his presence harangued the other Carib chiefs, upon the necessity of submitting, who all solemnly promised so to do: in the night the greater part of them, and the orator himself, escaped to the mountains.

In the morning Colonel Haffey, convinced of their treachery, made his dispositions to secure all he could; 280 were brought back to Calliaqua, and immediately removed to Baliseau. Lieutenant Laborde with thirty men was sent to Grande Sable, to receive the proffered submission of the Caribs in that district, and conduct them to Mount Young. He found their houses abandoned, and 200 of them in possession of an eminence, from whence they ordered him to withdraw instantly, declaring, at the same time, that they never would submit to the English. Mr. Laborde thought it prudent to obey their mandate. Lieutenant-Colonel Graham found a large party fortified near the bed of Colonarie River: he obeyed their invitation to approach, and displayed a white handkerchief in reply; when he had got within a few yards of their works, a volley of musketry killed and wounded so many of his men, that they retreated. Colonel Graham was badly wounded himself. From this time, the troops in various detachments destroyed their houses; more than 1000 were burnt in a few days, and several canoes of dimensions unheard of before among them. The whole force of the island was directed against the fugitives, who were soon compelled to yield, and then transported to Baliseau.

The quantity of provisions they possessed was almost incredible.

On the 2d of October, Marin Padre, their commander, surrendered; he was a Negro belonging to St. Lucia.

On the 18th of October Major-General Hunter wrote to Major-General Graham, to inform him, that since the 4th of July 725 brigands had surrendered, and 4633 Caribs, including women and children. From Baliseau, the Caribs were removed, by order of government, to the island of Rattan in the Bay of Honduras. Implements of husbandry were given them, and provisions sufficient to maintain them until their own crops should be ready.

April the 15th, General Whyte, with about 1300 men of the 39th, 93d, and 99th regiments, commanded by Colonels Tilson, Hislop, and Gammel, with a party of artillery under the command of Captain Bagot, sailed from Carlisle Bay, with a squadron under the command of Commodore Parr, to attack Essequibo and Demerara. Upon the 21st, the smaller vessels took on board the troops, and stood for the river, but they soon afterwards got aground, and remained so until the next flood tide. A flag of truce was sent to summon the fort.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 244. 245.
Major-General Hunter's Official Letter. Annual Register, 1796, p. 14.
Colquhoun's British Empire, vol. iii. p. 358. Dr. Pinckard's Notes, vol. ii. p. 158.

"By Major-General John Whyte, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces, &c. &c. and Captain Thomas Parr, Commander of His Majesty's Ships, &c. &c.

"These are requiring you, the governor and council, military and naval forces, of the colony of Demerara and its dependencies, to surrender the said colony to His Britannic Majesty's forces under our command, and to place the said colony under his Majesty's protection, and quietly and peaceably to submit to his Majesty's government.

"In which case the inhabitants shall enjoy full security to their persons, and the free exercise of their religion, with full and immediate enjoyment of all private property, whether on shore or afloat (excepting such as may appear to belong to the subjects of the French republic), according to their ancient laws and usages, or such other as may be determined upon previous to the colony's being placed under his Majesty's government, upon the most liberal and beneficial terms.

"That in the event of the colony's remaining under the British government at the conclusion of a general peace, they shall enjoy such commercial rights and privileges as are enjoyed by the British colonies in the West Indies. With regard to the military and naval forces, that the officers and men of the land forces shall, if agreeable to themselves, be received into the British pay, with leave, at the restoration of the Stadholder, to return into his service. Each non-commissioned officer and soldier shall receive, upon his taking the oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty, to serve him faithfully during the war, where it may be thought proper to employ him, the sum of one hundred guilders. The officers to receive, upon the same conditions, the allowance of 200 days bat, baggage, and forage money, as paid to the British officers. The officers and men of the marine forces cannot be taken into the British service, until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known, but shall receive pay according to their rank, and every indulgence that can be allowed.

That the governor and all civil officers, after having taken the oaths of allegiance to his Majesty, which will be administered by Major-General Whyte, are (if they choose) to remain in their respective situations (excepting those who have shewn a decided partiality to the French interest), the governor only resigning the military command. Should such liberal terms be refused, the governor, council, and all concerned, must be answerable for the consequences, as an immediate attack will be made by the land and sea forces, which will render every resistance vain. Major-General

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Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 272, 273.

Whyte and Captain Parr give the governor one hour, and no more, from the delivery of this by Lieutenant-Colonel Hislop, to accept or not.

"H. M. S. Babet, off the River Demerary,
April 20, 1796."

"John Whyte, Major-Gen.
"Thomas Parr, Capt. R.N."

"Gentlemen,

"Demerary, 22d April, 1796.

"It is out of my power as yet to give a decisive answer to your summons, demanding a surrender of this colony to His Britannic Majesty's forces, as my duty requires me to lay it before the council, to whom it is also addressed, but which is not assembled at this moment. I will, however, call the members present together, and return about twelve o'clock an answer.

"I have the honor to remain, &c.

"Anthony Beaujon,
"Governor of Demerary."

"To their Excellencies General Whyte
and Commodore Parr."

"Sir,

"On board the Babet frigate, April 22, 1796.

"We have been honoured with your letter in answer to ours of yesterday's date, summoning the colony of Demerary to surrender to His Britannic Majesty's arms, requesting for the reasons therein mentioned to have until twelve o'clock this forenoon to assemble the council to assist you in your determination. The reasonableness of this request induces us to grant it, but you will be aware that if an answer is not returned at or before that time, no farther delay can be made, and you alone must be answerable for the consequences; and you will please also to observe, from the very liberal terms offered, no deviation whatever can be admitted.

"We have the honour to be, &c.

"John Whyte, Major-General.
"Thomas Parr, Captain R.N."

"To his Excellency the Governor
of Demerary."

"Gentlemen,

"Fort William Frederic, Demerary,
22d April, 1796.

"We, the governor, members of the council, and commanders of the naval forces of the colony, in council of war assembled, having attentively perused the summons dated yesterday, and

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Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, pp. 274, 275, 276.

addressed to us by your Excellencies, demanding the surrender of the said colony to His Britannic Majesty's forces, also the terms thereunto annexed, have, after mature deliberation, resolved to accept said terms, and on them to surrender the said colony and dependencies, as demanded, whereof we hereby give you notice; also that our colours will be struck on the landing of your forces. It will depend on the several officers and the troops to decide for themselves as to the offers made them, and we have the honour to subscribe ourselves, &c.

Anthony Beaujon, Governor. J. Van Well. Major C. Fitzjcher, Commander. P. P. Luyken. Thomas Cuming. A. Meertens.

By order of the Council,
M. S. Tuine, Sec. ad. int.

By evening the English were in possession of Fort William Frederic, the only defence of the colony, without firing a shot. The Thetis, a Dutch frigate of twenty-four guns, and a cutter of twelve, were taken as prizes.

Upon the 28th, the troops were embarked in the small craft, and proceeded to Berbice, which capitulated upon the same terms as Demerara.[1]

At Grenada, Major Wright was obliged to fall back from Pilot's Hill to the post of Sauteur, with the loss of ten men killed and fourteen wounded.

At St. Lucia, the English troops, under General Abercrombie, attacked Morne Fortuné; they were repulsed, and retired to their former position. Upon the 24th of May, they had lodged themselves within 500 yards of the fort, which they battered with such success, that on the evening of that day the French desired a suspension of arms until the next day at noon. In the interim a capitulation was agreed upon; and on the 26th of May the garrison, 2000 strong, laid down their arms, and surrendered prisoners of war. All the cannon and military stores, and several small vessels,

Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 177. 212. 272.
Gazette, May 4. Abercrombie's Letter.

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[1] *Commodore T. Parr's Squadron at the capture of the colonies of Demerary, Essequibo, and Berbice, consisted of—*

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Malabar	54	Commodore T. Parr.
Scipio	64	——— F. Laforey.
Undaunted	40	——— H. Roberts.
La Pique	40	——— D. Milne.
Le Babet	20	——— W. G. Lobb.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.

fell into the hands of the English, who had lost about 500 men killed and wounded.[1]

Sixteen French privateers are reported to have been taken in the West Indies this year.[2]

Steele's Naval Chronologist.

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[1] *The following is the list of the Fleet with Lieutenant General Sir Ralph Abercrombie, K.B. at the recapture of St. Lucia, on the 25th May,* 1796.

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Thunderer	74	Rear Admiral Sir H. C. Christian, K. B. Captain James Bowen.
Alfred	74	——— T. Drury.
Ganges	74	——— R. M'Dowall.
Vanguard	74	——— S. Miller.
Vengeance	74	——— T. M. Russel.
Minotaur	74	——— T. Louis.
Invincible	74	——— W. Cayley.
Grampus	54	——— J. Williamson.
Malabar	54	——— T. Parr.
Madras	54	——— J. Dilkes.
Arethusa	38	——— T. Wolley.
Astrea	32	——— R. Lane.
L'Aimable	32	——— C. S. Davers.
Ariadne	20	——— H. L. Ball.
Beaulieu	40	——— L. Skynner.
Charon	44	——— J. Stephenson
Hebe	38	——— M. H. Scott.
Laurel	20	——— R. Rolles.
Matilda	24	——— H. Mitford.
La Prompte	20	——— G. Eyre.
Tourterelle	30	——— E. Fellowes.
Undaunted	40	——— H. Roberts.
Albicore	16	——— R. Winthorp.
Beaver	18	——— S. G. Warner
Fury	16	——— H. Evans.
Bull Dog	14	——— G. F. Ryves.
Lacedemonian	16	
Pelican	16	——— J. C. Searle.
Roebuck	24	——— A. S. Burrowes.
Thorn	16	——— Lt. H. Hamstead.
Terror bomb	8	——— Hon. D. Douglas.
Victorieuse	12	——— J. Mainwaring.
Requin	12	——— Lt. W. Champain.

The Frederic, Charlotte, and Berbice, armed store ships, and Queen Charlotte cutter.

[2] *French Ships taken in the West Indies.*

La Perçante, of 26 guns, was taken in February, off Puerto Plata in St. Domingo, by Captain the Honourable C. Carpenter, in the Intrepid, 64.

The Marsouin, of 26 guns, was taken by Captain L. Skynner, in his Majesty's ship Beaulieu, 44.

L'Alerte, of 14 guns, was taken off St. Domingo, by Captain J. Bingham, in his Majesty's ship Sampson, 64.

La Volcan, of 12 guns, was taken by Captain A. F. Evans, in the Spencer, 18, May 4th, off Bermuda, after a close action of one hour and a quarter.

L'Atheniene, of 14 guns, was taken May 8th, off Barbadoes, by Captain Winthorp, in the Albicore, of 16 guns.

La Renommée, 44, was taken July 12th, off St. Domingo, by Captain T. Drury, in the Alfred, 74.

1797.

Upon the 19th of January, a party of Spaniards crossed the Orinoko to attack the outpost at Moroko, the most remote point of the colony of Essequibo. It was defended by Captain Rochelle and a party of Dutch troops, who had entered into the British service upon the capture of the colony. The attack was made in the night; but the Spaniards were observed before they landed, and the whole force at the post was under arms to receive the assailants, who boldly rushed forward; they were soon defeated: some were killed, some wounded, others driven into the river, a few escaped in their boats. Of the Dutch, Captain Rochelle and nine soldiers were wounded, some of them mortally.

The Methodists in Grenada were 115 in connexion; of whom only three were Whites, in May, 1797.

In December, the Methodists in St. Bartholomew's in society were 109 Blacks, twenty people of colour, and one white man.

Pinckard's Notes, vol. iii. p. 249. Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 84.

L'Eliza, schooner, of 10 guns, was taken October the 18th, by Captain H. Evans, in the Fury, of 16 guns.

La Cerf Volant, of 18 guns, was taken November the 1st, off St. Domingo, by Captain H. Ricketts, in his Majesty's ship Magicienne, 32.

L'Africaine, 18, was taken December the 3d, off St. Domingo, by Captain J. Cook in the Quebec, 32.

La General Leveau, of 16 guns, was taken December 10th, off St. Domingo, by Captain Watkins, in the Resource, 28, and Captain Otway, in the Mermaid, 32.

Dutch Vessels.

Thetis, of 24 guns, and Zee Meeuv, of 12, were taken at the surrender of Demerary, April 23d.

The Thetis was afterwards sunk at Demerary, and the Zee Meeuv lost.

The Batave, of 12 guns, was taken July 6th, off Barbadoes, by Captain A. S. Burrows, in the Roebuck, 44.

Spanish Vessels taken.

El Galgo, of 18 guns, with 80,355 dollars on board, was taken by Captain Fellows, in the Alarm, 32, November 23d, off Grenada.

British Ships lost in the West Indies.

Salisbury, of 50 guns, Captain W. Mitchell, was lost May 13th, on the Isle Avache, St. Domingo; crew saved.

La Sirenne, 16, Captain D. Guerin, was lost in the Bay of Honduras, and all her crew, in August.

The Cormorant, of 16 guns, Captain T. Gott, was blown up October 14th, at Port-au-Prince, and only twenty men saved.

The Bermuda, of 18 guns, Captain T. Maxtone, was supposed to have foundered in the gulph of Florida in September, and all her crew to have been lost.

The Malabar, 54, Captain T. Parr, foundered October 10th, in coming from the West Indies; crew saved.

The Berbice schooner, J. Tresahar, was driven on shore at Dominica, in November; crew saved.

The Undaunted, 40, Captain R. Winthorp, was lost upon the Morant Keys, August 27th; crew saved.

The Narcissus, 20, Captain P. Fraser, was lost October 3d; crew saved.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.

Captain Ogilvy, in his Majesty's ship Thunderer, on the Jamaica station, destroyed the Hermione French frigate of forty-four guns.

On the night of the 6th of April, the boats of his Majesty's ships Magicienne and Regulus entered the harbour of Cape Roxo (Puerto Rico), and captured, sunk, and burnt thirteen sail of square-rigged vessels and schooners, the whole in the port (except a Danish ship), and destroyed two batteries of two guns each, six and four pounders, at the entrance and head of the harbour, without the loss of a man.

Upon the 22d of March, Captain Pigot, in his Majesty's ship Hermione, anchored within half a mile of several small vessels at anchor under a battery near the west end of Puerto Rico. The fire from the battery was soon silenced. Captain Pigot says, "I sent the boats, under the directions of Lieutenants Reid and Douglas, to take possession of the vessels; and though they were aground, and a small fire of musketry kept up by the enemy, they brought them all out but two, which were sunk, and I am happy to say without a man being hurt. The following day I sent the boats, under the direction of Lieutenant Reid, to land, and endeavour to spike and dismount the guns, which they effected without loss. The enemy had, on our first appearance, taken the sails of the vessels away, and otherwise dismantled them. I set fire to them all but a brig." Three were French privateers, and the others their prizes; in all fifteen sail.

From a return made to an order of the House of Commons, May 5th, 1806, it appears that the British sugar colonies, in 1797, exported 1,636,681 cwt. of sugar, 4,279,164 gallons of rum, 114,947 cwt. of coffee, and 6,918,153 lbs. of cotton.

"The seas were so covered with English cruizers that no Spanish vessels could depart from their ports without the certainty of being taken; all trade with America ceased in consequence.

On the 18th of November, 1797, the Spanish government, for the first time, gave permission to neutral vessels, whether sent from Spanish or foreign ports, to trade with Spanish America. It was provided that the articles introduced should not be of the class prohibited, and they were to be subject to the duties prescribed in the regulation of 1778, in the same manner as if the adventurers sailed from the mother country, and returned to some port of Spain."[1]

Annual Register, 1797, p. 99.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 29, 30. 32, 33.
Depon's South America, vol. ii. p. 49.

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[1] "*Bahamas.*—An act to consolidate and bring into one act the several laws relating to slaves, and for giving them further protection and security; for altering the mode of trial of slaves charged with capital offences; for suspending the several acts and clauses of acts therein mentioned, and for other purposes." Assented to the 11th of May, 1797, by the governor, John Forbes.

This act enacts, that "no slave shall be turned away by reason of such slave being rendered incapable of labour.

"The vestry to lay a tax upon the in-

The following extract from General Abercrombie's dispatches contains the particulars of his attack upon Puerto Rico:

Annual Register, 1797, p. 97.—Abercrombie's Dispatch.

habitants once in every year, for the purpose of raising a sum for the maintenance of Negroes, who have been left by the deaths or removals of their proprietors, or who have been manumitted without any suitable provision being made for their maintenance.

" Every master or owner of slaves shall give them two suits of clothes every year, under penalty of *50l.*, and shall instruct them in the Christian religion.

" No slave to be mutilated.

" No court or justice to pass any sentence whereby any slave shall be directed to be mutilated.

" Any person killing a slave, or causing the same to be done, shall be considered murderers.

" Persons anywise ill-treating slaves subject to be indicted in the general court, &c.

" No slave shall receive more than twenty lashes at any one time, or for any one crime, &c.

" Owners of slaves committing them to gaol, the provost-marshal authorised to receive them, and to have four shillings a day for his trouble.

" Affixing iron collars, with projecting bars, on the necks of slaves, unlawful.

" Christmas Day, and the two following days, to be allowed every slave as holidays.

" Overseers absenting themselves on Christmas holidays, without leave, to forfeit *5l.* per day.

" An account of the deaths and births of slaves on each plantation to be given in upon oath to the churchwardens annually.

" If neglected, the penalty of *50l.* to be stopped out of his wages.

" No slave shall leave his owners plantation without a ticket from him.

" No Negro shall hunt cattle or other animals with cutlasses, guns, or other arms.

" Free Negroes giving false passes to or harbouring slaves, to suffer loss of freedom or other punishment.

" White persons guilty of the same offence, to suffer fine and imprisonment.

" No ticket to be granted to a slave for more than one month.

" Slave absconding, notice thereof to be given within fourteen days.

" Runaway slaves not to be bought or sold.

" The punishment of slaves, who shall run away for six months, not to extend to life or limb.

" If they are absent more than that time, to be transported for life, or suffer other punishment, not extending to life or limb.

" Slaves harbouring runaways, to suffer fine and imprisonment.

" Slaves taking up runaways, to be rewarded, not exceeding three pounds.

" Slaves being ten days absent, and found eight miles from their plantation, to be deemed runaways.

" Free persons apprehending runaways, to be entitled to twenty shillings, over and above two shillings a mile for the first five miles, and one shilling per mile afterwards.

" Slaves taking or killing another in actual rebellion, to be rewarded with five pounds for killing, or ten pounds for taking any such slave; and also with a blue cloth coat, with a red cross on the right shoulder.

" Persons killing slaves in the execution of this act, to give immediate information, under a penalty of one hundred pounds.

" Persons apprehending slaves, to send them to proper places.

" The gaoler to advertise once a month the names of runaway slaves in his custody.

" Gaolers to provide good and wholesome provisions for the slaves in their custody, under the penalty of ten pounds.

" Runaway slaves, after being advertised twelve months, to be sold at public auction.

" Gaoler not to work or lend any runaway slave.

" Slaves making their escape from confinement, to be punished by whipping, not exceeding fifty lashes.

" If the slave escapes through the gaoler's neglect, the gaoler or other officer to forfeit twenty pounds.

" The owner to be paid the full value for any slave killed in defence of his country.

" Any person that shall suffer more than twelve strange slaves to assemble, and beat their drums, or blow their horns upon his land, to forfeit fifty pounds, if he does not endeavour to prevent it. Civil and military officers may enter into any place whatever, to disperse such assembly.

" Slaves concealing arms or ammunition to be punished.

"On Monday the 17th of April, we made the island Puerto Rico, and came to an anchor off Congrejos Point. The whole north side of this island is bounded by a reef, that it was with much difficulty that a channel was discovered, about three leagues to the eastward of the town, through which his Majesty's sloops Beaver and Fury, with the lighter vessels, passed into a small bay, in which the troops on the next morning were disembarked, with little opposition from about 100 of the enemy, who were concealed in the bushes at the landing place. In the afternoon of the same day, the troops advanced, and took a position very favourable for our numbers, with our right to the sea, and our left to a lagoon, which extends far into the country. The artillery was brought up without loss of time, and every preparation made to force a passage into the island on which the town of Puerto Rico is situated.[1]

Annual Register, 1797, p. 97. Abercrombie's Dispatch.

"Slaves striking, or offering any violence to any white person, to suffer death.

"Slaves mixing any poison, with intent to give it, shall suffer death.

"Slaves, having fraudulently in their possession fresh meat, or above five pounds of horse or mule's flesh, to be whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes; if more than forty-eight pounds of such flesh be found in their possession, the punishment not to extend to life or limb.

"Slaves stealing cattle to be punished with death.

"Any free Negro aiding any slave to escape, to be transported.

"White persons to forfeit one hundred pounds for the same offence.

"No slave to carry about for sale any dry goods.

"No slave to retail any spirituous liquors.

"No slave to play dice, cards, or other gaming.

"Upon complaint made of any robberies, &c. to any justice of the peace, to issue his warrant.

"Not less than two justices and five freeholders shall constitute a court for the trial of Negroes.

"All executions to be performed in some public place, and the mode to be, hanging by the neck, and no other.

"Slaves giving false evidence, to suffer the same punishment as the person convicted

"The gaoler to receive all his fees from the public treasury.

"A record of the trials of slaves to be kept by the clerk of the peace.

"Constables to attend trial of slaves, under the penalty of twenty pounds.

"Jurors summoned to forfeit six pounds for non-attendance.

"No trial to be had until notice be given to the owners, &c. of slaves.

"Slaves sentenced to death to be valued by the jury, and paid for out of the public treasury.

"Slaves returning from transportation to suffer death.

"When any slave cannot be taken by warrant, a copy thereof to be served on the owner, who shall forfeit one hundred pounds for detaining or concealing such slave.

"All persons that have been slaves and made free, to be tried in the same manner as slaves.

"Offences committed by slaves, below felony, to be determined before two magistrates.

"Runaway slaves to be committed to goal.

"In all cases where power is vested in the justices and vestry, such power shall be executed by justices where no vestry on the out islands, or by the vestry, if no justices thereon.

"Forfeitures and penalties, not being otherwise directed, if not exceeding twenty pounds, to be recovered in a summary way, before two magistrates, and if above twenty pounds, in the general court.

"This act to be in force two years from the passing thereof, and from thence to the end of the next session of the general assembly, and no longer.

"Assented to the 11th May, 1797.

"JOHN FORBES."

Parl. Papers, B. pp. 3. 6, 7. 10. 12.

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[1] See vol. i. p. 225.

" It is necessary here to observe, that as the Moro Castle completely commands the passage into the harbour, the enemy kept open their communications with the southern and western part of the island, and even teazed and harassed our left flank with their numerous gun-boats ; the only point, therefore, on which we could attack the town, was on the eastern side, where it is defended by the castle and lines of St. Christopher, to approach which it was necessary to force our way over the lagoon which forms this side of the island. This passage was strongly defended by two redoubts and gun-boats, and the enemy had destroyed the bridge which connects, in the narrowest channel, the island with the main land. After every effort on our part, we never could sufficiently silence the fire of the enemy, (who had likewise entrenched themselves in the rear of these redoubts,) to hazard forcing the passage into the island with so small a force ; and this, indeed, would have been in vain, as the enemy could support a fire ten times more powerful than we could have brought against them. The only thing left was to endeavour to bombard the town from a point to the southward of it, near to a large magazine abandoned by the enemy ; this was tried for several days, without any great effect, on account of the distance. It appearing, therefore, that no act of vigour on our part, nor that any combined operation between the sea and land service could in any manner avail, I determined to withdraw, and to reimbark the troops, which was done on the night of the 30th of April, with the greatest order and regularity ; all our artillery and stores were brought off, except seven iron guns, four iron mortars, and two brass howitzers, which were rendered unserviceable, it being impossible to remove them. Not a sick or wounded soldier was left behind, and nothing of any value fell into the hands of the enemy. During the whole of our operations, I have experienced from Admiral Harvey the most cordial co-operation, and every act of personal kindness. At my request he landed 300 seamen, under Captains Toddy and Brown, of the royal navy, to whose exertions while on shore we are under the greatest obligations. From the arrangements of the admiral, the landing and reimbarking of the troops were conducted in the best order. To Captain Renou of the royal navy, principal agent of the transports, I desire to express the sense I have of his good conduct upon all occasions."

Four Spanish brass field pieces were brought off. The British loss in killed, wounded, and missing, was 225.

Extract from a dispatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Simcoe, commanding the British troops in St. Domingo, to the British government, dated Port-au-Prince, May the 8*th*, 1797.

" In my letter of the 13th of April, I have done myself the honour of informing you, that the army of the enemy under

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Annual Register, 1797, p. 111.

Toussaint, after the unexpected evacuation of Mirebalais, has possessed itself of Grand Bois; while the division of their forces on the side of Leogane continued to fire with cannon against Grenier.

"The preservation of these posts was an object of considerable moment; every method was taken, in case of their loss, to guard the mountain, and to dispute the ground on which the enemy could place their howitzers for the destruction of Port-au-Prince, the object which was supposed to be in their contemplation. But, as it was evident that the army of Toussaint could not be prevented from crossing the plain, and, under this impression, the Baron Montalembert had obtained my permission to evacuate the post of Thomazeau, at the foot of the mountains of Grand Bois, I determined to take the guns in the battery against Grenier, that in case the armies of Toussaint and Leogane should join, they might be totally without cannon, which could not be well brought across the plain of the Cul de Sac; and, without cannon, the junction or separation of their armies was equally indifferent. Colonel Dessources was therefore placed at the head of 2000 troops, and such preparatory arrangements were made, as provided for the protection of L'Arcahaye, and were well calculated to mislead the enemy; and such feints were directed as might distract their attention.

"The attack was intended to have taken place on the 15th of April, but the wind did not permit the arrival of Colonel Dessources with his regiment until the 26th, when he marched early in the morning from Port-au-Prince to Tourmier. The enemy, as was their custom, placed some troops in ambuscade, who were soon dispersed, and the King's forces arrived at Tourmier with little loss. The enemy had occupied two posts on the crest of the mountain of L'Hospitre, on each side of Tourmier, and nearly at two miles distance from it, at the habitations of Boutillier and St. Laurent. It was necessary to dislodge them from these positions; Colonel de Peyster was therefore detached to Boutillier, from which, with his usual gallantry and good conduct, he drove the enemy. The post of St. Laurent was more obstinately defended; and, by the unfortunate loss of Major Pouchet, who was killed in leading on the Jeremie troops, they were thrown into confusion, nor was the post taken till a greater force, with cannon, appeared against it. The delay occasioned by the defence of St. Laurent induced Colonel Dessources to postpone the attack of the battery till the next day; and that intelligent officer employed the remainder of the night in making such preparations as were necessary to insure the success of this enterprise. The defence of the Cul de Sac was entrusted to the Baron Montalembert, who made a considerable detachment to the pass, where the road from Leogane by Grenier

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Annual Register, 1797, p. 111.

enters the plain. This detachment was skilfully conducted by Major O'Gorman. It attracted the notice of considerable bodies of the enemy, and, on its return to the Croix des Bouquets in the evening, was attacked on all sides by small parties, who were repulsed. Toussaint entered the plain in the course of the day, and marched to the side of the Croix des Bouquets, actuated, as it is said, by some vague report of that important post being to be abandoned on his first appearance. His cavalry fell in with the advanced posts of the Baron Montalembert's cavalry, under the command of Captain Comte Manoux. That officer collecting his troops, immediately charged the enemy with great vivacity, when they fled, and withdrew with the utmost expedition to the mountain. In the mean time, Captain Conchet, of his Majesty's ship Abergavenny, with some armed vessels, proceeded off Leogane, which place has been effectually blockaded since my arrival at Port-au-Prince, and made various demonstrations to draw the enemy's attention to that side. I am happy in this opportunity to express how much I am beholden to the zeal and promptitude with which Captain Conchet has assisted me in promoting his Majesty's service.

" On the morning of the 17th, Colonel Dessources, having made his dispositions, marched in two columns, the left to Grenier, under the direction of Colonel De Peyster, in which was the British detachment commanded by Major Clay. The right column, under the direction of Colonel Vicomte d'Alzune, descended from St. Laurent. Upon the division of the left arriving in the bottom which separated the post of Grenier from the enemy's battery, it turned to the right and joined the column that had marched from St. Laurent. The fog and haze in the bottom prevented the enemy from seeing this movement. It was also concealed by the judicious manner in which Captain Spicer of the royal artillery threw shells from the heights of Fournier from an howitzer and carronade, directing them against the various ambuscades and defences which the enemy had thrown up to protect their battery from any attack in its front or on its right.

" On the junction of this division to one column, Colonel Dessources proceeded through a most difficult and inaccessible country to turn the left of the enemy's battery and the works which supported it, having left troops on the heights of St. Laurent to secure his retreat, and Major Clay to protect him from any attack made by the road from Leogane. As the colonel approached the flank of the battery and that of the breastwork which defended it, he successively broke his troops into divisions, which kept the enemy's force in check and suspense, until another division under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Dessources had, to their great surprise, possessed themselves of the heights considerably beyond them : when,

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Annual Register, 1797, p. 111. General Simcoe's Dispatch.

after an ineffectual resistance, they fled on all sides, and left Colonel Dessources in possession of their battery, the work of several months, and of the gun which they had in the preceding night withdrawn from it, for the defence of their breastwork.

"This critical enterprize, I am happy to say, was effected with but little loss, and by its success I was freed from any apprehensions from the junction of the enemy's army. I am persuaded this additional proof of Colonel Dessources' military ability and spirit will meet with his Majesty's approbation. That officer speaks in the highest terms of the behaviour of the troops under his command, of the officers who commanded the columns, and in a particular manner of the Captains Rodanes, Conegrat, and Monchet, of the colonial forces, who formed his advanced guard, and to their intrepidity and conduct he attributes much of the success of his operations.

"As the troops were assembling to proceed to other objects which I thought of importance for the King's service, I was informed by Brigadier-General Churchill of an attack that had been made at Irois, where, though the enemy had been fortunately repulsed in the assault upon that post, they still continued to invest it, and to threaten its siege. No time was lost in detaching the honourable Colonel Maitland with a sufficient force to the assistance of that officer. On his arrival, Brigadier-General Churchill informed him of the repulse of the enemy."

The English lost between forty and fifty in killed and wounded.

Upon the 30th of May, Brigadier-General Churchill proceeded to attack the post of Mirebalais. After two very hot days' march he arrived at Port Michell, occupied by about fifty of the enemy, who retired as the English approached. In the evening, Colonel Dessources, unable to proceed to the place he was ordered, joined General Churchill, and enabled him to drive the enemy from an advantageous position they had taken, without any loss to the British, driving some of them into the Artibonite, and taking two of their guns. The retreat of the enemy gave the fort of Mirebalais to the English.

Troops were now sent to protect St. Marc's from an attack prepared against it at Gonaives; and at the same time Colonel the Count de Rouvray, with 300 men, was detached to attack a camp of the brigands on the side of Leogane. He effectually drove the enemy from their several posts, killed between forty and fifty, burnt the camp, and returned to Grenier, with the loss of two killed and seven wounded.

The enemy attacked St. Marc, and carried the out-posts, but were afterwards driven from before it with considerable loss.

On the night of the 20th of April, General Rigaud, with 1200 picked men, attacked the British posts at Irois in St. Domingo. At

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Annual Register, 1797, pp. 126, 127. General Simcoe's Dispatch.

midnight, they attemped to storm the fort, in which there was only at the time twenty five men of the 17th regiment, with their officers commanded by Lieutenant Talbot of the 82d regiment, and about twenty colonial artillery men. The assailants returned to the charge three several times: many of them were killed in the fort. Colonel Degress, with 350 men of Prince Edward's black chasseurs, cut their way through to the relief of the fort, and saved the place, which was repeatedly attacked until morning, when the assailants retired, leaving the fort surrounded with their dead, and took post on an eminence, in spite of a sortie that was made with some advantage. On the 22d, Rigaud's troops made an incursion, and burnt the Bourg d'Anse Marie, and made an attack upon Fort L'Islet, from whence they were driven with great loss. In the mean time they were making preparations for a regular siege of Irois, when Captain Ricketts, in his Majesty's ship Magicienne, in company with the Regulus and Fortune, attacked their small fleet in the Bay des Carcasses.

Lieutenant-General Simcoe, in his dispatch, dated Port-au-Prince, June 20th, 1797, says, "I do myself the honour of enclosing General Churchill's report of the attack made by the enemy on the Grand Anse, and the repulse they met with in that quarter. The brigadier-general acknowledges in the strongest manner the services which Captain Ricketts, of the Magicienne, with the squadron under his command, effected in the destruction of the vessels of the enemy in Carcass Bay."

Brigadier-General Churchill, in his letter, dated Jeremie, April 30, says, "In the mean time the enemy were making every disposition for a regular siege of Irois, when fortunately the Magicienne frigate, commanded by Captain Ricketts, attacked their small fleet in the Bay of Carcasses, and sunk the vessels loaded with cannon and military stores for the siege."

Vice-Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, in his dispatch to Evan Nepean, Esq., dated June 11, 1797, says, "I have the pleasure to acquaint you, for their lordships' information, that the Grand Anse is acknowledged to be saved by the spirited and well-timed attack made by Captain Ricketts, of his Majesty's ship Magicienne, upon the enemy's transports of provisions and ammunition in Carcass Bay, for the particulars of which I beg to refer you to a copy of Captain Ricketts' letter."

"SIR, "La Magicienne, April 24, 1797.

"I beg leave to inform you, that on Sunday the 23d instant, when doubling Cape Tiburon, in company with his Majesty's ships Regulus and Fortune schooner, we discovered a six-gun privateer sloop, and four schooners, at anchor in this bay, which convinced me that the port of Irois was attacked. Soon after, the alarm gun

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xx. pp. 5. 6.

was fired from the fort. As no time was to be lost in endeavouring to counteract the views of the enemy, we stood in and anchored, when we commenced a heavy cannonnade, and had the good fortune, in a short time, to drive them into the mountains. Their field-pieces, ammunition, provisions, and vessels, laden with necessaries for carrying on the siege, fell into our hands.

" The good conduct of every officer and sailor belonging to our little squadron manifested itself upon this occasion, as well as upon many others since I have had the honour to command it.

" I have to regret the loss of four men killed; and Mr. Morgan, master's mate, and ten men, wounded (though not mortally), who were in the Magicienne's boats when endeavouring to tow out the privateers.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" W. H. Ricketts."

" To Vice-Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, &c."

Address from the Inhabitants of Jeremie.

" To the Honourable George (William) Henry Ricketts, Commander of his Majesty's ships La Magicienne; Le Regulus, Captain Carthew; and the Fortune sloop, Lieutenant Trelawny; stationed off the southern part of St. Domingo.

" Sir,

" The important service which you rendered to the Grand Anse, on the 24th of last month, has excited the most grateful sensations in the hearts of its inhabitants. Condescend, Sir, to accept of their most respectful acknowledgments.

" The Grand Anse will never forget, that the enemy, after a fruitless assault against the Fort of Irois, threatening it with a siege, for which it had assembled a most powerful force in Carcass Bay, saw you, at a single signal, rush down upon them, with the Magicienne, Regulus, and Fortune; that your fire was so terrible and so well supported, that in a short time the shore was covered with dead, and the numerous troops collected for the expedition put to flight. You took or sunk the six ships which formed their marine; and carried off their guns, their ammunition, their provisions, and even the tent of their commander-in-chief.

" It was this decisive advantage which compelled them precipitately to re-enter their own territory; when two columns advanced to complete their destruction by land, which had been so well commenced upon the sea. This exploit, so glorious for the British flag, insures to you, Sir, the most flattering rewards from the King of whom we have now the honour to become the subjects; it obtains a security for the Grand Anse, which, unquestionably, the implacable hatred of an

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xx. pp. 5, 6.

obstinate enemy will not, for a long time, again disturb; this happy event having induced the government to adopt such measures as will preserve it for the future.

"In the inability of the inhabitants properly to acknowledge so signal a service, they beg of you, Sir, to receive, as a testimony of their gratitude, a complete plan of the country of the Grand Anse, in which will be found, correctly drawn, the Fort of Irois and the Bay of Carcasses.

"This plan, in reminding you of the memorable action of the 24th of April, will call to your recollection how much your presence, and that of the ships of war under your command, were serviceable to the Grand Anse; will solicit a continuation of your vigilance towards a quarter which first called for the assistance of His Britannic Majesty's forces, and which has uniformly given to its government innumerable proofs of its inviolable fidelity.

"We are, with the most respectful esteem, and the most lively gratitude,

"Sir,
"Your most humble and obedient servants,
"THE INHABITANTS OF THE GRAND ANSE."

"Lieut.-Col. H. Desombrage,
"Major de la Place."

In August, General Simcoe left General Maitland commander-in-chief in St. Domingo. General Simcoe proceeded to England to present to the British ministry a memorial of the real state of that colony, in consequence of which it was determined that the island should be abandoned.

In Grenada an act was passed on the 13th of May this year, enacting, "that all and every slave or slaves who now are or hereafter may be sentenced to be banished from this island, or to be confined to hard labour in chains, for life, or for any shorter period, and who shall escape, break loose, or run away from the place of his, her, or their confinement, or who shall be absent for the space of forty-eight hours from the custody of the person having charge of him, her, or them, shall, on conviction thereof, be declared guilty of felony, and shall suffer death or such other punishment as the magistrates present on the trial of such slave or slaves shall direct."

Mr. Dallas shall relate to the reader what sort of punishment this slave-chain is, the attempt to escape from which these merciful legislators punish with death.

"The chain, being fixed about the leader, is carried round the bodies of the followers, leaving a sufficient distance to walk without treading on each others heels, and to each it is secured by a padlock.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 484.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 356.

"As soon as they are thus yoked within the walls of the workhouse, the gate is thrown open, and the poor animals are driven out by a Negro driver, attended by a white driver, both with cattle-whips in their hands. Sometimes the white driver rides on a mule.

"You may imagine that in the great number of persons thus fastened to each other, without the least attention to the difference of age or of strength, it is not very probable that an equal pace among them can be kept up through the day, as they move about. They are set upon a brisk walk almost approaching to a trot, and woe be to those whom fatigue first forces to flag; the never-ceasing sound of the cattle-whip long keeps a regularity in the slight sinking curve of the intervening links of the chain; but *naturam expellas furca, tamen usque recurret:* nature will return; the feebler will begin to pull upon the stronger, the intervening links will lose their regular curve; here they become stretched to their utmost, there they sink nearly to the ground; the weak add the weight of their exhausted limbs to the strong, and the strong tread upon the heels of the weak. This the drivers remedy, as much as possible, by their cattle-whips, till nature quite worn out is at last driven back to the workhouse." To these slave chains masters and mistresses send their Negroes for punishment at their discretion, and there is no distinction between the treatment of the slaves so sent, and those convicts who are condemned by the magistrates for public crimes.

In Antigua, until the 28th of December of this year, the murder of a slave was punishable only by a fine of from £100 to £300; and castration, or other dismemberment, by a fine of from £20 to £100, current money.

In Grenada those who had asserted, in 1788, that slaves, when "*ill-treated*" by the master, had the full protection of the English law, felt it to be a melioration of their state in this year (1797) to guard them by trifling pecuniary penalties from dismemberment or mutilation.

In the Bahamas the slaves could be corrected at the will of their masters, until this year, when the crime of mutilation was subjected to a penalty limited to £100 currency, or six months' imprisoment, even in the most atrocious cases.

In Dominica also a slave could be "cruelly" tortured for the same fine, and no imprisonment at all.

Mr. B. Edwards, in the House of Commons, moved for the repeal of a clause in the act 5 Geo. II. c. 7, which declared, that both slaves and land should be liable to debts of the same degree. The repealing act, however, neither enacts that the slaves and lands shall be sold together, nor that neither shall be sold, but repeals so much only as relates to Negroes. The consequence, therefore, would be, supposing British statute law to regulate the subject at

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 19. 24. 39, 40. 77.

all, that the very evil which the repealed act was falsely alleged to produce would be produced by the act of repeal; for the land would continue liable to be sold under 5 Geo. II., while the slaves would not; and the latter would obviously be torn from their settlement by the estate being sold from the debtor to whom they belong, as effectually as if they were sold from the estate.

But the colonial legislators have been so far from giving effect to the intentions of parliament and suggestion of government, that they treated both with contempt, and the liability of slaves to be sold by legal process is still left every where on its former footing.

By the 55th section of the Bahama Consolidation Slave Act, passed this year, the jury are required to be unanimous in their verdict on the trial of a felonious offence.

That the lower class of white persons frequently rob the slaves is proved by the following extract from the report of the assembly of St. Christopher, dated 1797. It was the practice of some of the lower class of white persons to beat and ill treat the Negroes, and frequently to take from them any articles that they carried to town for sale." And Sir William Young, a planter and zealous apologist of slavery, when governor of Tobago, states, in his report of 1811, that " the slaves coming from distant plantations to the market of Scarborough (the chief town), with poultry, pigs, corn, and fruit for sale, were often defrauded in weight and measure, or their goods were forced from them at a less price than they asked, or they were robbed of the whole by some miscreant white people, or Mulatto housekeeper, with impunity, slaves not being admitted to give evidence of the wrong they had suffered from a person who is free."

Sir William represented that an act had put a stop to these abuses; but he was too sanguine in his expectations, for he afterwards speaks of the utter inefficacy of all laws for the protection of slaves while their evidence is rejected.

Upon the 6th of May, the Duke of Portland sent the following circular letter to the governors of Jamaica, St. Vincent's, Dominica, Barbadoes, Leeward Islands, and Grenada.

" My Lord, or Sir, " Whitehall, 6th May, 1797.

" I have received his Majesty's commands to transmit to your lordship the enclosed resolution of the House of Commons of the 6th of April last, respecting the Negroes in his Majesty's plantations in the West Indies; and to signify to you his royal pleasure, that you should take the earliest opportunity of communicating it to the council and assembly of the island of ——— , to whose particular attention and consideration you will recommend the formation of such a system of measures as may appear to them best suited to the attainment of the several important objects which are specified

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 157. 316. Parliamentary Papers, A. 11.

in the resolution. Your lordship will not fail to transmit to me, from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the legislature of your island, in consequence of this communication; and I desire you will take care, in your first dispatches, to inform me whether any measures have been already taken by the legislature of the island, which may tend to promote the purposes expressed by the resolution of the House of Commons; and you will also be attentive at all times, to avail yourself of every opportunity of cultivating and improving the disposition you observe in the planters and inhabitants to promote the humane and benevolent views which the legislature of this kingdom has so eminently manifested in the resolution which is herewith transmitted to you.

"I am, &c.,
"PORTLAND."

The Address of the House of Commons.

Jovis, 6° die Aprilis, 1797.

Resolved, "That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, requesting that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions to the governors of his Majesty's plantations in the West Indies, to recommend to the respective councils and assemblies of the said plantations to adopt such measures as shall appear to them best calculated to obviate the causes which have hitherto impeded the natural increase of the Negroes already in the islands, gradually to diminish the necessity of the slave trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination; and particularly, with a view to the same effect, to employ such means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the Negroes, and secure to them, throughout all the British West India islands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law; and at the same time assuring his Majesty, that this house will concur in such measures as shall appear requisite to be taken by this house for the attainment of the same object."

The Spanish government had adopted several regulations to oblige the merchants to compose their cargoes for America of national commodities. "In a little time they exacted but a third; but to those who included more than a third of their cargoes, they allowed a premium in the reduction of the duties. Finally, by an order of the 20th of November, 1797, the King accorded to shippers the liberty to export as they pleased, either in foreign or national commodities."

Sir Thomas Picton's Proclamation.

"By virtue of an official paper which I, the governor of this island of Trinidad, have received from the Right Honourable Henry

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Depon's South America, vol. ii. p. 25.
Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America, London, 1817, p. 17.

Dundas, minister of His Britannic Majesty for foreign affairs, dated the 7th of April, 1797, which I here publish in obedience to orders, and for the use which your excellency may draw from its publication, in order that you may communicate its tenor, which is literally as follows:—'The object which at present I desire most particularly to recommend to your attention, is the means which might be best adapted to liberate the people of the continent near to the island of Trinidad from the oppressive and tyrannic system which supports with so much rigour the monopoly of commerce, under the title of exclusive registers which their government licences demand; also to draw the greatest advantages possible, and which the local situation of the island presents, by opening a direct and free communication with the other parts of the world, without prejudice to the commerce of the British nation. In order to fulfil this intention with greater facility, it will be prudent for your excellency to animate the inhabitants of Trinidad in keeping up the communication which they had with those of Terra Firma previous to the reduction of that island, under the assurance that they will find there an entrepôt or general magazine of every sort of goods whatever. To this end, His Britannic Majesty has determined in council to grant freedom to the ports of Trinidad, with a direct trade to Great Britain. With regard to the hopes you entertain of raising the spirits of those persons with whom you are in correspondence, towards encouraging the inhabitants to resist the oppressive authority of their government, I have little more to say, than that they may be certain, that whenever they are in that disposition, they may receive at your hands all the succours to be expected from His Britannic Majesty, be it with forces, or with arms and ammunition to any extent; with the assurance, that the views of His Britannic Majesty go no further than to secure to them their independence, without pretending to any sovereignty over their country, nor even to interfere in the privileges of the people, nor in their political, civil, or religious rights.'

THOMAS PICTON, &c. &c."

Puerto de Espana, 26 June 1797.

Upon the 12th of February, Rear-Admiral Harvey, with the squadron under his command, sailed from Martinico to join some transports with troops on board at Cariacou. On the 15th, in the morning, the fleet sailed from Cariacou, and on the 16th passed the Bocas, and found the Spanish admiral, with four sail of the line and a frigate, at anchor under cover of the island of Gaspergrande, which was fortified. The squadron worked up, and came to an anchor opposite to and nearly within gun shot of the Spanish

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Annual Register, 1797, p. 54.
General Abercrombie's Official Letter.

ships. The frigates and transports were ordered higher up the bay, and they anchored about five miles from the town of Port d'Espagne. The disposition was immediately made for landing at daylight next morning, and for a general attack upon the town and ships of war. At two in the morning of the 17th, the Spanish ships were observed to be on fire; they burnt with great fury, one line of battle-ship excepted, which escaped the conflagration, and was taken possession of at daylight, by the boats of the fleet. The enemy at the same time evacuated the island and abandoned that quarter. The troops were immediately ordered to land; and as soon as a few hundred men could be got on shore, about four miles to the westward of the town, General Abercrombie advanced, meeting with little or no resistance.

Before night he was master of Port d'Espagne and the neighbourhood, two small forts excepted. In the morning, a capitulation[1] was entered into with the governor Don Chacon; and in the

Annual Register, 1797, p. 54.
General Abercrombie's Official Letter.

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[1] *Articles of Capitulation for the surrender of the Island of Trinidad, between his Excellency Sir Ralph Abercrombie, K. B. Commander-in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces, Henry Harvey, Esq. Rear Admiral of the Red, and Commander-in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Ships and Vessels of War, and his Excellency Don Josef Maria Chacon, Knight of the Order of Calatrava, Brigadier of the Royal Navy, Governor and Commander-in Chief of the Island of Trinidad and its Dependencies, Inspector General of the Troops of its Garrison, &c. &c.*

"ART. 1. The officers and troops of His Catholic Majesty and his allies in the island of Trinidad, are to surrender themselves prisoners of war, and are to deliver up the territory, forts, buildings, arms, ammunition, money, effects, plans, and stores, with exact inventories thereof, belonging to His Catholic Majesty; and they are thereby transferred to His Britannic Majesty in the same manner and possession as has been held heretofore by his said Catholic Majesty.

"2. The troops of His Catholic Majesty are to march out with the honours of war, and to lay down their arms at the distance of 300 paces from the forts they occupy, at five o'clock this evening, the 18th of February.

"3. All the officers and troops aforesaid of His Catholic Majesty are allowed to keep their private effects, and the officers are allowed to wear their swords.

"4. Admiral Don Sebastian Ruiz de Apodaca being on shore in the island, after having burnt and abandoned his ships, he, with the officers and men belonging to the squadron under his command, are included in this capitulation, under the same terms as are granted to His Catholic Majesty's troops.

"5. As soon as ships can be conveniently provided for the purpose, the prisoners are to be conveyed to Old Spain, they remaining prisoners of war until exchanged by a cartel between the two nations, or until peace, it being clearly understood that they shall not serve against Great Britain or her allies until exchanged.

"6. There being some officers among His Catholic Majesty's troops, whose private affairs require their presence at different places of the continent of America, such officers are permitted to go upon their parole to the said places for six months, more or less, after which period they are to return to Europe; but as the number receiving this indulgence must be limited, his Excellency Don Chacon will previously deliver to the British commanders a list of their names, ranks, and places which they are going to.

"7. The officers of the royal administration, upon the delivery of stores with which they are charged to such officers as may be appointed by the British commanders, will receive receipts, according to the custom in like cases, from the officers so appointed to receive the stores.

"8. All the private property of the in-evening all the Spanish troops laid down their arms, and the whole colony passed under the dominion of His Britannic Majesty.

Lieutenant Villeneuve, of the 8th regiment of foot, was the only person wounded: he died soon afterwards.

General Abercrombie thanks Captain Woolley, of his Majesty's

Annual Register, 1797, p. 54.
General Abercrombie's Official Letter.

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habitants, as well Spaniards as such as may have been naturalised, is preserved to them.

"9. All public records are to be preserved in such courts or offices as they are now in; and all contracts and purchases between individuals, which have been done according to the laws of Spain, are to be held binding and valid by the British government.

"10. The Spanish officers of administration who are possessed of landed property in Trinidad, are allowed to remain in the island, they taking the oaths of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty, and they are further allowed, should they please, to sell or dispose of their property, and to retire elsewhere.

"11. The free exercise of their religion is allowed to the inhabitants.

"12. The free coloured people who have been acknowledged as such by the laws of Spain shall be protected in their liberty, persons, and property, like other inhabitants, they taking the oath of allegiance, and demeaning themselves as become good and peaceable subjects of His Britannic Majesty.

"13. The sailors and soldiers of His Catholic Majesty are from the time of their laying down their arms to be fed by the British government, leaving the expence to be regulated by the cartel between the two nations.

"14. The sick of the Spanish troops will be taken care of, but to be attended and to be under the inspection of their own surgeons.

"15. All the inhabitants of Trinidad shall, within thirty days from the date hereof, take the oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty to demean themselves quietly and faithfully to his government, upon pain, in case of non-compliance, of being sent away from the island."

"Done at Port d'Espagne, in the island of Trinidad, the 18th day of February, 1797.

"RALPH ABERCROMBIE.
"HENRY HARVEY.
"JOSEPH MARIA CHACON."

There were 577 Spanish prisoners taken in the garrison, and 6 French officers, and 50 men sick in the hospital, besides 91 naval officers, 581 marines, and 1032 seamen. *Annual Register*, 1797, p. 65.

List of the Fleet with Lieutenant General Sir R. Abercrombie, at the capture of the island of Trinidad, on the 18*th of February*, 1797.

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
The Prince of Wales	98	Rear Admiral Harvey. Captain J. Harvey.
Invincible	74	——— W. Cayley.
Alfred	74	——— T. Totty.
Bellona	74	——— G. Wilson.
Vengeance	74	——— T. M. Russell.
Scipio	64	——— C. S. Davers.
Dictator	64	——— ———
Alarm	32	——— E. Fellowes.
Arethusa	38	——— T. Woolley.
Favourite	16	——— J. A. Wood.
Pelican	18	——— ———
Zephyr	14	——— R. Laurie.
Terror bomb	8	——— Jos. Westbeach.
Thorn	16	——— J. Hamstead.
La Victorieuse	12	——— E. S. Dickson.

Ulysses armed transport, 44, Lieutenant George Lempriere; Zebra, 16, and Bittern, 16, T. Lavie. *Steele's Naval Chronologist.*

ship Arethusa, and Captain Wood, of the Favourite sloop, for their assistance; as also Lord Craven and Lieutenant-Colonel Soter.

The number of Methodists in society in Barbadoes amounted to only twenty-one. "This gloomy aspect (they say) begat within us some serious thoughts of quitting the island altogether."

Annual Register, 1797, p. 54. General Abercrombie's Official Letter.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 154.

Official letter from Rear-Admiral Henry Harvey, Commander in-Chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at Barbadoes, and the Leeward Islands. Dated off Port d'Espagne, in the Gulf of Paria, Feb. 21, 1797, *to Mr. Nepean.*

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of their lordships, that it having been determined an attack should be made on the island of Trinidad, both with a view to that colony, and to the Spanish squadron, which had been there for some time past, the troops intended for this expedition from Martinico were accordingly embarked in the ships of war and transports, and I sailed from Fort Royal Bay the 12th instant, with the ships and vessels of his Majesty's squadron under my command. Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercrombie embarked with me in the Prince of Wales.

"The Invincible had previously sailed for Barbadoes, with two transports, to embark a part of the 14th regiment; and the Thorn and Zebra were ordered to receive the detachments from Tobago; the Favourite was sent to St. Vincent, to collect some troops from that island; and the whole were ordered to rendezvous at the island of Cariacou, one of the Grenadines, on or before the 13th; and on my arrival at that island, on the 14th, I found all the ships and transports were assembled.

"On the 15th, in the morning, I sailed with the squadron and transports, passing between Cariacou and Grenada; and on the 16th arrived off Trinidad, and stood towards the Gulf of Paria; when having passed through the great Bocas Channel, at half-past three in the afternoon, the Spanish squadron were discovered at anchor in Shagaramus Bay, consisting of four sail of the line, under the flag of a rear-admiral, and one frigate.

As the day was well advanced before I approached the bay, and the enemy appeared in strength on Gasparaux Island, which commanded the anchorage, by batteries erected for that purpose, I ordered the Arethusa, Thorn, and Zebra to proceed a little farther up the gulf, and anchor, with all the transports. The Alarm, Favourite, and Victorieuse were ordered to keep under sail above the transports during the night, and prevent any vessels sailing from Port d'Espagne.

"In the evening, just before dark, I anchored with the ships of the line, in order of battle, opposite to the enemy's squadron, within random shot of their ships and batteries, and in constant readiness to prevent their escape during the night, which I suspected they might attempt, as all their sails were bent, and they appeared perfectly ready for sailing.

"At two o'clock in the morning of the seventeenth, we discovered one of their ships on fire, and soon after three others, all of which burnt with great fury until near daylight, when they were entirely consumed. One of them having escaped the conflagration, the boats were sent from the squadron, and she was brought out without having received any damage.

"I have great satisfaction in acquainting their lordships, that this squadron of the enemy, commanded by Rear-Admiral Don Sebastian Ruiz de Apodaca, were destroyed or captured, according to the list I herewith inclose; and although this service was effected without any other act of his Majesty's squadron under my command, than being placed in such a situation as to prevent their escape, I am fully convinced, that had they remained at their anchorage until the next day, the officers and men whom I have the honour to command, would have completed, by their exertion and zeal, the capture of the whole, notwithstanding the advantage of their situation, under the cover of about twenty pieces of cannon and three mortars, which were mounted on Gasparaux Island, and had been placed there for the sole purpose of defending the ships in the bay. That island, which, like the ships, had been abandoned during the night, was taken possession of soon after daylight by a party of the Queen's regiment.

"General Abercrombie, early in the morning, joined the Arethusa, and the troops were all landed in the course of the day, In May, the missionary at Nevis reported that he had added about 100 new members since that time last year, but that their numbers did not exceed 400.

The legislature of Grenada passed an act, imposing a tax of £100 on manumissions, and allowing an annuity of £10 for life to the freedman.

The following is the preamble of the act: — "And whereas the manumitting and setting free slaves, diseased, blind, aged, or otherwise disabled from working, without making provision for their sustenance and comfort, ought to be prevented, as it obliges them to ramble about and beg for subsistence, which frequently compels them to the necessity of robbing and stealing, and leads them to other bad practices to support themselves: — and whereas it is also necessary to discourage the two frequent and indiscriminate manumission of slaves, without a sufficient provision being made for their support."

The first Methodist chapel ever built in St. Bartholomew's was erected this year. The following letter from Mr. Turton, the first missionary, traces the origin and progress of Methodism in that island.

"For the space of four years I resided at Antigua, where I exhorted occasionally in the societies. In 1785 I went to America, and travelled on the Long Island circuit for some time. Upon returning to Antigua, I preached in several parts of the island, when, at the request of Mr. Baxter, I visited Tobago. Soon after my arrival there, the place was invaded by the French, who made dreadful devastations, through the whole island. For several days and nights I was exposed to the open air, having no other shelter but a bush to skreen me from the sun by day and the cold by night, and with scarcely any food to sustain nature. This brought on a fit of sickness, from which I did not get free for some months.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 22. 81.
Reasons for establishing a Registry of Slaves. London, 1817, p. 45.

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under the direction of Captain Woolley, covered by the Favourite sloop, about three miles from the town, without opposition. The general took possession of the town the same evening; and the 18th the governor desired to capitulate for the whole island, and the articles were agreed to, and signed the same day, a copy of which I herewith transmit.

"Captain Harvey, of his Majesty's ship Prince of Wales, will have the honour to deliver this dispatch, from whom I have always experienced the greatest zeal and attention to his Majesty's service.

"I have the honour to be,
"Sir,
"Your most obedient humble servant,
"Henry Harvey."

List of Ships burnt and captured in the Shagaramus Bay, February 17th, 1797, by the squadron under Rear-Admiral Harvey.

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.	
San Vincente	84	Rear Admiral Don Sebastian Ruiz de Apodaca. Captain D. Geronimo Mendoza.	(Burnt.)
Gallarado	74	Don Gabriel Sorondo.	
Arrogante	74	Don Raphael Benasa.	
San Damaso	74	Don Teref Jordan. (Taken.)	
Santa Cecilia	36	Don Manuel Urtesabel (Burnt.)	

"After the French evacuated the island, I resided with one or two kind families; but every thing being destroyed by fire, we were in a dreadful situation; and finding it, on these accounts, exceedingly difficult to collect a congregation, I removed to the island of St. Bartholomew in the month of December, very ill of a fever. But the kind hand of Providence having restored me to health, I made application to the governor for the use of the church, which he readily granted. At first, when I began to preach, there were many prejudiced against me, and I had a variety of difficulties to encounter. House-rent was so very high, that I was obliged to give two joes per month for a small place to reside in; nor was it in my power to obtain lodgings with a family, to save that expence. However, after a little time, things changed for the better, and a prospect of doing good made its appearance.

"Prior, however, to this favourable change, I found myself so badly situated, that, receiving no encouragement from my brethren in the neighbouring islands, I was ready to sink into despondency, and resolved at times to leave the work in which I was engaged, but was providentially prevented, for which I desire this day to be unfeignedly thankful. Thus having obtained help from God, I resolved to persevere, and to do the best in my power. I therefore opened a school, intending to take in only twelve scholars, but by the advice of my friends I enlarged it.

"In the latter end of 1797, David Nisbest, Esq., an English gentleman residing in this island, advised me to build a small chapel, as it was inconvenient to preach in the church at night, and as that was the best time for meeting the Negroes. Being thus encouraged, and having obtained the patronage of the governor, I applied to all with whom I had any acquaintance for assistance in this undertaking, and met with such success, that in a little time we built a little chapel, forty-seven feet in length and twenty-six in breadth, and likewise a dwelling-house adjoining to it. Several very respectable gentlemen contributed handsomely to the work. My good friend Mr. Owens visited me from another island, as I was proceeding in the building, and seeing there was a prospect of much good being done, encouraged me to proceed, hinting, that though a little debt might be incurred, he hoped the British conference would send us some assistance. This was a cordial to my mind: I set out with fresh life and energy. The Lord revived his work, and it has increased ever since. When we first began to build the chapel, our society consisted only of thirty members, but it is now increased to 110. About a month ago Mr. Owens favoured me with another visit. He met some of the classes, and was greatly satisfied with them. Our meetings are lively: many are under deep convictions; and the divine presence is felt in our assemblies. I think a preacher who could speak French

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 81.

would be very acceptable in this island, as the French inhabitants have shewn me much kindness. It is a common saying among the poor people, particularly the Negroes, that, 'since the preacher has come to our island, the Lord has given us water to drink,' meaning, that they had been blessed with rain, which, for many years, they had not in such abundance. I have many things which I could wish to say, but the vessel sails directly, and I must conclude, begging to hear from you by the first opportunity.

"I remain, Rev. Sir,
"Your Servant in Jesus Christ,
31st *Aug.* 1798. "William Turton."

Captain Ricketts to Sir Hyde Parker.

"La Magicienne, off the island Zacheo,
"28th December, 1797.

"Sir,

"Having received information that several brigs and schooners belonging to the enemy were in Guadilla Bay, in the island of Porto Rico, I proceeded there with his Majesty's ships La Magicienne, Regulus, and Diligence. On the 27th, at noon, we anchored close abreast of the forts, and, after an hour and half cannonading, captured every vessel under their protection. To Captain Carthew I am indebted for the very gallant and able support that I, on this occasion, met with, (as well as many others since the Regulus has been under my orders.) Captain Meads, who commanded the boats that took possession of the vessels, executed that service much to his own honour and highly to my approbation; indeed every officer and man belonging to the squadron is fully entitled to my best thanks and praises. "I am, &c.

"W. H. Ricketts."[1]

Upon the 17th September, his Majesty's sloop Pelican, Captain Thomas White, attacked the Trompeuse, French privateer brig, of twelve six pounders and seventy-eight men. At forty-five minutes past eight the Pelican opened her fire in crossing, then wore under

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 81, Naval Chronicle, vol. xx. p. 7.
A nual Register, 1797, p. 168. Official Letter.

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[1] *French ships taken or destroyed in the West Indies.*

L'Harmonie, 44, was run on shore at St. Domingo, and destroyed by Captain W. Ogilvy, in the Thunderer, 74, and Captain E. Crawley, in the Valiant, 74, upon the 17th of April.

La Republique Triomphante, 14, was taken by Captain T. Boys, in the Severn, 44, and Captain J. Gascoyne, in the Pelican, 18, in December.

British ships lost.

His Majesty's ship Tartar, 28, Captain the Honourable C. Elphinstone, was lost on St. Domingo in April; the crew were saved.

Lacedemonian, 12, W. Wrench, was taken in May.

Maria Antoinette schooner, 10 guns, Lieutenant J. M'Inerheny, was run away with by the crew, who murdered the commander. *Steele's Naval Chronologist.*

the Trompeuse' stern, and continued firing until twenty minutes past nine, when the Trompeuse made all sail away. The Pelican was disabled in her rigging; but as soon as it was repaired, Captain White made every exertion to get alongside the French vessel again. At forty-five minutes after twelve he succeeded, and began to fire into her; in ten minutes afterwards the Trompeuse blew up abaft and struck her colours, and at fifteen minutes past one she went down by the head and was totally lost. The Pelican sent her boats immediately, and saved the lives of sixty of the crew.

Sixty-seven French, one Dutch, and five Spanish privateers were taken in the West Indies this year.

Upon the 22d of September, Captain Pigot, of the Hermione frigate, and all his officers, except the surgeon and one master's mate, were murdered, as well as most of the marines, in all forty persons, by the crew, who mutinied and carried the ship into La Guira. The mutiny was headed by Captain Pigot's own coxswain, who had been four years with him. He cut off the captain's head while he was asleep.

February the 14th, John Forbes, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Bahama islands, vice the Earl of Dunmore.

March the 8th, the Honourable Andrew Cochrane Johnstone was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the island of Dominica.

April the 14th, William Bentinck, Esq., was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of St. Vincent, Bequia, and such other of the islands commonly called the Grenadines as lie to the northward of the island of Cariacou.

George Beckwith, Esq. was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the Bermuda islands.

April the 18th, Stephen de Lancey, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of Tobago.

Captain-Lieutenant Spicer, of the royal artillery, was appointed lieutenant-governor of Fort Royal in St. Domingo, September 30th.

November 20th, William Dowdeswell, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Bahama islands.

The island of Jamaica exported 7,931,621 pounds of coffee this year.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2151 Whites, 4476 free people of colour, 10,009 slaves, 1082 Indians; total 17,718.

1798.

His Majesty's ships Acasta and Ceres, under the command of Captains Lane and Otway, off Puerto Rico, heard that a French

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Steele's Naval Chronologist. Annual Register, 1797, pp. 174, 186. 188.
Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 370. Poland's Account of Trinidad. London, 1807.

national brig of sixteen guns, two schooners, privateers, and several other vessels, were in Aguada Bay in that island, under the protection of a Spanish fort. There not being sufficient water for the ships, Lieutenants Wooldridge, of the Ceres, and Thompson, of the Acasta, volunteered to take them with the boats, which was done at two in the afternoon, bringing out with them the French national brig Mutine of sixteen six pounders and one twelve pounder and ninety men, two privateer schooners of four guns each and forty-five men, together with four schooners, their prizes, without the loss of a man, although the enemy lost in killed and drowned upwards of forty men.

On the 13th of January, Lord Camelford, then acting commander of his Majesty's sloop Beaver at Antigua, shot Lieutenant Peterson of his Majesty's ship Perdrix, for disobeying his orders. What added to the calamity was, that there had been some previous ill-blood between the parties. Lieutenant Peterson was decidedly wrong, and a court-martial honourably acquitted Lord Camelford.

Captain Ricketts, in his Majesty's ship Magicienne, with the Regulus and Drake brig, sailed from Cape Nichola Mole, with 250 troops, to dislodge a body of brigands from Platform Bay, from whence they committed depredations in row boats. The Platform is about seven leagues from the Mole, and is an eminence so called from its shape; the summit is quite level, and about a third of a mile in circumference — very steep and difficult of access. This the pirates were fortifying, and had mounted a mortar, when the arrival of the squadron put an end to their operations. At daylight on the 13th February, the ships were in the bay, and the troops landed with so much rapidity, under cover of the Magicienne's and Drake's fire, that the enemy were routed before they could gain the Platform[1], which was taken possession of by the troops. The seamen brought off four row boats, and all the guns (six guns and one mortar); and in the evening the troops reimbarked without the loss of a man.

In October this year, a white man stabbed a Negro slave in Tobago in the presence of a number of other slaves. The Negro died upon the spot; and the murderer was tried, and acquitted for want of evidence, "according to the usages and customs established and received in the courts of law in the West Indies, of never receiving the evidence of any slaves against a white man."

Upon the 23d of April the Duke of Portland sent a circular letter to the West India governors, which enquires, among other things, "whether, in consequence of the act passed last session (Mr. Edwards' bill), whereby the law was repealed which made Negroes chattels for the payment of debts, the legislature would be

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Naval Chronicle, vol. ix. p. 114.; vol. xx. p. 8.; vol. xxii. pp. 305. 492.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 173. 178.

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[1] "Monte del Plata." See p. 17. vol. i. for the reason why so called by Columbus.

disposed to secure the Negroes on a plantation from being liable to be seized for any future debt of their masters, contracted after passing a law for that purpose, &c. and whether the legislature would by its authority unalienably attach the Negroes to the soil, &c." Lord Balcarres, the governor of Jamaica, in his answer to the duke, says, "I am sorry to report, that the house of assembly positively declined giving any answer."

It has been a frequent practice in the West Indies to load the slaves, who have absented themselves from work, with chains, weights, and some with an iron collar rivetted round the neck, with three long rods projecting at equal distances, and hooked at the outer ends. The miserable wearer cannot lie down, without the projecting rods meeting the ground and forming a triangle, in the middle of which his neck is suspended by the galling iron collar. The author saw a boy, a marker at a billiard table in Barbadoes, with one of these collars on, but his had only two projecting rods, which were bent up so as to stand above his head. The boy did not appear to be above twelve years old, and said he wore it "for playing marbles."

At Antigua the author saw a female slave, with an iron rivetted round her ancle; it was made with two bars, sharp at each point, crossing each other, and projecting about a foot in four directions. The planter said he could not keep her at home without it. This was in 1805, notwithstanding the act passed this year says, that such practices ought to be declared unlawful, except (and the exception neutralises the prohibition) "other than such as are absolutely necessary for securing the person of such slave."

The legislatures of the Leeward Islands were called on to meliorate the condition of their slaves. They all, being five in number, represented to their common governor the expediency or necessity of having in such a case a uniformity or identity of laws; and requested, that for this end a general council and assembly of all the respective islands might be convened at St. Christopher's, though there had been no precedent of such a measure since their separation into different legislative bodies, about a century before. An extraordinary general legislature was accordingly convened, and passed an act for the protection and preservation of slaves.

In April, an act was passed more effectually to provide for the support, and extend certain regulations for the protection of slaves; to promote and encourage their increase, and generally to ameliorate their condition. In this act it is ordained, "that every owner or director of any slave or slaves within the Leeward Islands shall weekly and every week, under the penalty of ten shillings per head, for each and every slave under his or her direc-

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Stephen on West India Slavery, p. 293.
Reasons for Registry of Slaves, 1815, London, p. 112.
Annual Register, 1805, p. 182. Lord Lavington's Proclamation.

tion, for every omission, purchase or provide for every said slave or slaves, among divers other kinds of provisions, one pound and one quarter of herrings, shads, or mackarel, or other substitutes for herrings, shads, or mackarel."

In sect. 14. is the following description of the ordinary modes of robbing the Negroes, for which the offender might be subject to a discretionary fine, which was in no case to exceed £10 currency. "If any white or free coloured person shall take away, or cause to be taken, from any slave, any article or thing whatsoever for which such slave shall produce a ticket or note from his or her owner or director, authorizing him or her to sell or possess such article or thing, or shall take away, or cause to be taken away, from any slave, any stock, vegetables, provisions, grass tops, vowra, or any article or thing which such slave shall be authorized by any present or future existing laws, usages, or customs of the island wherein he resides, to sell or possess; or shall, after purchasing from any such slave any of the articles or things aforesaid, refuse or omit to pay him or her the price agreed upon for the same; or shall knock off from the head of, or pull away from any slave into the dirt or street, or trample on the ground, or scatter about upon it any such articles or things as aforesaid, &c."

The act goes on to provide a miserable palliative for the ordinary defect of evidence in such cases, by obliging the offender, on a complaint made by the owner of the slave, to purge himself on oath. But it is not on account of this new mode of proceeding that the punishment of felony is made so slight, for if the offender is otherwise convicted, the penalty is the same. It is plain the assembly desired to check these detestable practices. But when will a West India community treat the robbery of a Negro slave by a white man as a felony?

The following extract is from sect. 22. of the Melioration Act of the Leeward Islands.

"And whereas the marriage of slaves cannot give *any particular rights either to the contracting parties* or their children, and it being unnecessary and even improper to enforce the celebration of any religious rites among the slaves, in order to sanctify contracts, the faithful performance of which can be looked for only by regular improvement in religion, morality, and civilization," &c.

Thus the union of the slaves is denied the protection of the law, for a reason which fails even in point of fact, for many Negroes were well instructed by the Moravian and Methodist missionaries.

That the marriage union, as a civil contract alone, ought to be guarded from violation, seems not to have occurred to this council and assembly, and a better was never constituted in the British West Indies.

The general assembly of the Leeward Islands passed an act,

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 158. 162.

making debts contracted *bonâ fide* for the subsistence of plantation slaves by the party in possession, a lien in law on the property of such slaves, and of the estate, to whomsoever they belong, or by whatever title they are held.

The remedy was inadequate, because the authors of the law, in giving the embarrassed planter the means of subsisting his slaves, did not compel him to use them, nor could they deliver him from the consequences of doing so. The necessity of the cruelty was taken away, but not the strong temptation to it, which is its more ordinary cause.

"The necessary subsistence of the slaves ought to be first provided for, in all cases, out of the proceeds of their labour, and every subsisting charge should be postponed rather than that they should perish for want of food, or have their health impaired by an insufficient allowance." The dictates of humanity, private interest, and the voice of the legislature, enforced also by the public interests in preventing insurrections, of which every where famine is the most probable cause, it might be supposed would have rendered this act of the Leeward Islands general in all the islands; but no similar law is yet to be found (1823) in any one of the seven other islands which have separate assemblies. The act settled the minimum of the allowances of food, and deprived the planter of all excuse for not supplying them. Penalties of £100 were imposed if the full ratio of provisions required by the act were not supplied; yet the utter fruitlessness of this law was attested by the council and assembly of Antigua in their report laid before the House of Commons, and printed by its order, in July 1815. No prosecutions for non-compliance with any of the sections of the act have ever been instituted, though "there are many planters," the report says, "who had it not in their power to withhold any part of the produce of their plantations from their creditors, without risking the dissatisfaction of their mortgagees and the loss of their possession." And the famine under which the slaves groaned had no other excuse. Where but in the West Indies does the subsistence of agricultural slaves depend upon provisions to be bought or imported from abroad, and consequently on the wealth of their master, who is thus placed under a strong temptation or necessity of withholding a sufficiency of food?

From a return made to the House of Commons, May the 6th, 1806, it appears that, in 1798, Great Britain imported from the British West Indies 145,042 cwt. of coffee, and 150,700 hhds. of sugar, of which 70,823 cwt. of coffee, and 83,350 hhds. of sugar, came from Jamaica.

In February, the Methodist missionaries at Tortola received an answer from the Danish government, to their petition for permission

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 99. 105.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 16. Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 170.

to preach to the slaves in the Danish islands. The reply stated, that "as private individuals, or as ministers on a visit to the islands, the Methodist missionaries were at liberty to preach occasionally as they had done before, but that no grant could be given, through which they might establish societies in any of the Danish territories." Dr. Coke says, "though they were permitted to preach in houses which had been previously licensed, provided those to whom they belonged would grant them liberty, yet as *they were forbidden to build others*, and to *raise distinct societies*, they could not but conclude that their time might be more advantageously employed than in exercising labours, which must occasionally be subject to the controul and caprice of those who knew not God." He says their aim was to spread the gospel, and not aggrandize a sect; and yet, because they could not establish their sect in those islands, they gave up preaching in them altogether. This cannot be reconciled by saying, that because the Moravians were successful, the Methodists were less needed; this would have been equally true, even though the Methodists had not been forbidden "to raise distinct societies."[1]

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 170.

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[1] *The following biographical sketch was written by Mr. Turner, the Methodist missionary at Tortola.* See Dr. Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 121.

"Having frequently observed with pleasure the deep piety and good sense of one of our coloured sisters, Cambric Dracott, I felt a strong inclination to take down from her own mouth a few memoirs of her life; and I was the more inclined to do this, from observing her ill state of health: she seemed to be fast verging towards the grave. The account she gave communicates the following information.

"Cambric Dracott, who was born a slave in the island of Barbadoes, about the year 1735, was the offspring of a Mulatto man and a Mustee woman, and was at her birth the property of Henry Evens Holdin, Esq. As soon as she became capable of labour she was employed in the house as a domestic servant, and was treated by the family with great kindness, so that she felt tolerably happy in her condition. When very young she was sent to school to learn to read and work; but making little proficiency in reading, and afterwards having no opportunity of improvement, she entirely forgot the little she had acquired.

"About the age of seventeen she received the addresses of a white man, a smith by trade, to whom she was united for about four years in the character of a wife, though without the ceremony of marrage, for matrimony in this sense is universally denied to slaves. They may unite, but only by private contract. During their union she had two children, and was perfectly satisfied with him whom she considered to be her husband; but this state did not last long. Through those vicissitudes which diversify human life, she fell into the hands of another owner, who soon put an end to the happiness she had enjoyed; for, notwithstanding he was a married man, he used every exertion that fraud and force could suggest, to seduce his slave: but on finding himself disappointed, had recourse to revenge, and determined to sell her off the island, and thus burst for ever those tender ties which nature had formed. To effect his purpose, he had her seized, put in irons and closely confined, till he could meet with a convenient opportunity to send her off. While thus confined through the instigation of her master, a number of things were invented to blacken her character, of which no proof was either demanded or brought; this was done to give a sanction to the inhuman treatment she was destined to undergo. After remaining six weeks in this state of confinement, and living only on a small portion of the coarsest fare, the morning arrived on which she was to take her final departure from all that could endear her to the continuance of life. Amidst the pangs of agonizing nature, she solicited the favour of clasping her only child (for at this time only one was living) in a last embrace; but

General Orde states, that in the French islands a female slave is excused from labour in proportion to her number of children; and having six, she is made free. At Dominica, he says, some have lately adopted this practice.

Mr. Henry Gandy, a Quaker, a planter in Santa Cruz, stated the number of slaves in that island to be 70,000; and that since the Moravians had been established there the treatment of the Negroes had been more humane. The converted slaves were the best behaved, and the masters were glad to have them go to the Moravians, and allowed them time for instruction. The Moravians had plantations of their own, and the slaves were very kindly treated upon them.

An Estimate of the present Value of the Slaves in the British Islands in the West Indies, distinguishing the Number of Slaves in each Island.

	Slaves.
Jamaica - - - - - -	256,000
Antigua - - - - -	37,808
Montserrat - - - - -	10,000
Nevis - - - - - -	8,420
St. Christopher's - - - -	20,435
Virgin Islands - - - -	9,000
Barbadoes - - - - -	62,115
Grenadas - - - - -	23,926
St. Vincent's - - - - -	11,853
Dominica - - - - -	14,967
Bahamas - - - - -	2,241
Bermudas - - - - -	4,919
	461,684

461,684 slaves—estimated at £40 a-head, amounts to £18,491,955; and the value of the property, including slaves, patented lands, with the erections

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Report of the Lords of the Committee, 1798. General Orde's Examination. Dominica, A. 15.; part iv. Denmark.—Population.

this favour was denied. She was sternly forbidden to see the child; neither did she ever behold it more. As to her husband, she was permitted to have with him an interview of about two minutes, but no longer; she was then torn from him by violence, hurried on board the vessel, and never beheld either him or the island again. About thirty years elapsed from this shocking separation, before she could obtain any account of her child, when she received some intelligence of its death. She left Barbadoes under convoy of the fleet which reduced Martinico in 1756, and soon found herself in the island of Tortola, the property of Mr. Wm. Dracott, who, together with his lady, treated her remarkably kindly in every respect, which tended greatly to alleviate the anguish of her soul, and to wear off those painful sensations which she felt on account of leaving her child, and all she had in Barbadoes. With her new proprietor she was again employed in domestic concerns; and, from their confidence in her rectitude, was permitted to act without controul. In this station she became the wife of a Dutchman, with whom she lived sixteen years, but had no child after leaving Barbadoes. The Dutchman dying, she became the wife of another man, an enemy to godliness, with whom she lived, till, by hearing the Methodists, she was con-

and other personal property, £36,810,305; but the estimate given in by the West India planters and merchants make it 70 millions.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2186 Whites, 4799 free people of colour, 11,021 slaves, 1005 Indians — total 19,011.

Privateering was much increased. Ninety-nine privateers were taken in the West Indies this year; eighty-nine French, eight Spanish, and two Dutch.

This was the year of their greatest exertion and their greatest loss; they were never so numerous afterwards.

Le Scipion, of twenty guns, was taken by Captain Totty, in the Alfred, seventy-four, on February 16th, under the batteries at Basse Terre, Guadaloupe.

The George sloop, Lieutenant Mackay, was taken by two Spanish privateers, January 3d.

Mr. James Alexander, the Methodist missionary, was removed from Barbadoes in April. The whole society in Bridge Town consisted of thirty white women and six men of colour, who were thus left without a preacher.

The number of Methodists in society in St. Vincent's was more than 1000.

Another Methodist missionary was sent to Dominica, and was told by the governor, that while he conducted himself with propriety he should experience his full protection. By the end of the year the missionary (Mr. Dumbleton) had a respectable congregation, and thirty "members in society."

In June, the number of Methodists in society at Tortola was 2739, of whom 16 were white.

Upon the 7th of May, Captain Dickinson, in his Majesty's sloop Victorieuse, was attacked off Guadaloupe by two French privateers, one a schooner of twelve guns and eighty men, the other a sloop of six guns and fifty-one men. The sloop soon struck, in a sinking state; she had four men killed and four wounded. The schooner escaped, Captain Dickinson not being able to chase from his convoy.

In the official report made to the French government it was stated, that the Negroes at St. Domingo indent themselves for terms, or take their wages in kind, or share in the produce, according to previous agreements made with the proprietors, so that many of the plantations which had been desolated were again turned to considerable profit.

Political Account of Trinidad, London, 1807. Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 155. 280. 358.; vol. iii. p. 120.
Annual Register, 1798, p. 82. Captain Dickinson's Letter.—p. 279.

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vinced of sin, and induced to join the society. Exasperated at her conduct, he immediatly became her enemy, stripped her of all she had, and, leaving her much in debt, finally abandoned her. Though grieved at this unmerited treatment, she rejoiced in being separated from a man to whom she was not lawfully married, and who was so great an enemy to all spiritual things. In this single state she has devoted her days to God, and bids fair to end her life in peace."
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 123.

January the 16th Captain Mainwaring, of his Majesty's ship Babet, discovered a French privateer half way between Martinico and Dominica. Upon making out the Babet's force, the privateer attempted to escape, by using her sweeps. Lieutenant Pym immediately volunteered to attack her, with the pinnace and launch, and twenty-four men; after rowing four hours he succeeded in boarding the Frenchman, with the loss of one man killed and five wounded. The enemy, La Desirée, of six guns and forty-six men, had three killed and fifteen badly wounded.[1]

" *Captain Dickson's account of the destruction of the vessels and forts at Rio Caribe and Garupano, Island of Margarita.*

" Victorieuse, Testigos,
" Dec. 6th, 1798.

" Sir,

" On the 29th of last month, I received intelligence of three privateers to leeward. I proposed to Colonel Picton, as the only sure method of keeping the trade open, to attack Rio Caribe and Garupano, destroy their forts, and bring off their guns, as the privateers would then have no shelter, if chased by us. He perfectly agreed with me, and ordered Major Laureil, with forty of the royal rangers, to embark and proceed with me. On the 2d I pushed down in company with the Zephyr; and having reached Cape Three Points, we destroyed the schooner Proserpine, a Dutch privateer of two guns and thirteen men, from Cariaco, on a cruize. On the 3d, having reached within eighteen miles of Rio Caribe at two o'clock in the morning, I landed the troops with a party of seamen, to attack the forts in the rear, while the brigs attacked in front. At daylight, the commandant sent to beg we would not fire, as he

Ann. Reg. 1798. p. 39. Capt. Mainwaring's Letter. 1799. p. 16. Capt. Dickson's Letter.

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[1] The Author has much pleasure in recording this gallant action of his old mess-mate's.

Admiral Harvey reported the capture of the following privateers, schooners belonging to Guadaloupe.

La Buonaparte	8 guns.	72 men.	By his Majesty's ships, Lapwing and Concorde.
L'Amazone	10 —	80 —	
La Sauveur	4 —	21 —	
La Fortune	2 —	21 —	
Invariable	4 guns	24 —	By other vessels.
Le 10 Août, (Brig.)	12 —	50 —	
L'Intrepid, (Brig.)	14 —	74 —	
Scevola, (Sloop.) ...	10 —	73 —	
Le Guadaloupienne	10 —	80 —	By the Amphitrite, Capt. Ekins.
La Prize de Mattho	8 —	65 —	
La Bordelais	6 —	38 —	
La Prosperité	8 —	61 —	By the Solebay, Capt. Poyntz.
L'Independence	12 —	66 —	By the Pearl, Capt. Ballard.
Le Quartorze Juillet	14 —	65 —	By the Santa Margarita, Capt. Parker.
La Jomble	8 —	72 —	By the Cyane, Capt. Matson.

The Barton, merchant ship, Cutler master, to windward of Barbadoes, beat off a privateer schooner of 18 guns, after a very gallant action.

Naval Chronicle, vol. i. p. 161.—*Gazette*, p. 435. *Rear-Admiral Harvey's Letter.*

would give us possession without resisting. We immediately reimbarked the troops, took off the guns, and made sail for Garupano, where we arrived at four in the evening. Observing a French privateer in the harbour, I sent a flag of truce to the commandant, to say I was determined to take her out, and on his peril to fire on me: he answered he would protect her, and that I should give him the guns I had taken at Rio Caribe. I found there was no time to be lost, and ordered Major Laureil with the troops, Lieutenants Case and M'Rensey, with thirty seamen from the Victorieuse and Zephyr, to land and carry the forts by storm, while the brigs attacked in front. At five we anchored, and opened a smart fire on both forts; in ten minutes the troops and seamen carried the lower fort, and I observed the Spanish struck at the upper one, but instantly replaced by French colours. In five minutes the upper fort was carried. I have taken the guns and ammunition off, destroyed the forts, and sent the privateer to Trinidad: she had six guns and eighty men.

"I cannot conclude my letter without informing you, I never saw more real courage displayed than by Major Laureil, Lieutenants Case and M'Rensey of the Victorieuse, and soldiers and seamen under their command, by attacking two forts with seventy men, defended by at least 300. Great zeal was also shewn by the officers and seamen of the Victorieuse and Zephyr, and I am much indebted to Captain Champain, to whom I beg leave to refer you for further information.

"E. S. Dickson."

Captain Fahie, in his Majesty's ship Perdrix, on the 11th of December, captured L'Armée d'Italie, French privateer ship, of thirteen guns and 117 men, to windward of the Virgin Gorda. She engaged the Perdrix forty-two minutes, had six killed and five wounded, and was unmanageable when she struck. Captain Fahie praises the conduct of Lieutenants C. Ottley and James Smith, Mr. M. Crawford, master, and Mr. Piquenet the purser.

Letters from the Earl of Balcarras to the Duke of Portland.

"My Lord,

"On the 31st of October, I received a dispatch from the Bay of Honduras. Colonel Barrow informs me that the settlers had been attacked by a flotilla consisting of thirty-one vessels, having on board 2000 land troops and 500 seamen; Arthur O'Neil, governor-general of Yucatan, and a field-marshal in the service of Spain, commanded in person.

"I have great satisfaction in transmitting the letter of the lieutenant-colonel, by which your grace will be informed, that this armament has been repulsed, and the expedition entirely frustrated.

Gazette Letter. March, 1799. Annual Register, 1799, p. 4.

The lieutenant-colonel speaks in the handsomest Manner of the conduct of Captain Moss, of his Majesty's sloop Merlin, and of the wonderful exertions of the settlers and their Negro slaves, who manned the gun-boats. The conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Barrow and of the settlers, in putting the port of Honduras Bay into a respectable state of defence, as well as the gallant manner in which it was maintained, gives me entire satisfaction, and it is with pleasure that I report their services to your grace.

" I have, &c.

" BALCARRAS.

" MY LORD, " Honduras, September 23d, 1798.

" After the date of my last dispatch of the 11th, 14th, and 21st August, by the express boat Swift, I continued to strengthen our flotilla, which now consists of No. 1, Towser, one gun, eighteen pounder; No. 2, Tickler, one gun, eighteen pounder; No. 3, Mermaid, one gun, nine pounder; No. 4. Swinger, four guns, six pounders, and two four pounders; No. 5, Teazer, six guns, four pounders. Besides eight flat gun-boats, carrying each a nine pounder in the prow.

" Nos. 1 and 2 are commanded by Mr. Gelston and Mr. Hosmer, masters of merchant vessels, who, with some of their crews, volunteered the business in a very handsome manner. To those gentlemen I am much indebted for their able and active services. The masters and crews of all the other vessels consist entirely of volunteers from the colonial troops, and together amount to 354 men, now on float. The enemy was so well watched by scout boats and canoes, that not a single movement could be made by him without our knowledge; and finding that he aimed at the possession of St. George's key, the armed vessels, Nos. 1, 4, and 5, were sent to that place, to guard the narrow channels leading to that commodious harbour. On the 3d of September, the enemy endeavoured to force a passage over Montego-key-shoal with five vessels, two of which carried heavy metal, but was repulsed. He renewed his attempt on the following day, but our little squadron, being now reinforced by six gun-boats, beat them off with great ease, and the five vessels returned to the main body of the fleet, then at anchor about two leagues to the northward. This movement gave our people an opportunity of drawing and destroying all the beacons and stakes which the enemy had placed in this narrow and crooked channel, and without the use of which nothing but vessels of a very easy draught of water can pass.

" On the 5th, the same vessels, accompanied by two others and a number of launches, endeavoured to get over this shoal by another passage, but were repulsed, apparently with loss. On this, as well

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Annual Register, 1799, p. 4.

as on the two preceding days, the Spaniards expended an immense quantity of ammunition to no manner of purpose, while our people fired comparatively little, but with a steadiness which surpassed my most sanguine hopes.

"Captain Moss, in his Majesty's ship Merlin, left his anchorage at Belize on the evening of the 5th, and arrived at St. George's key about noon on the 6th of September. The Spaniards, having found a passage through the leeward channels impracticable, had got under weigh on the morning of that day, with their whole fleet, seemingly with a view of forcing a passage through the windward, a sand-bore passage, to the eastward of Long-key, but on seeing the Merlin beating into the harbour of St. George's key, and that our fleet was reinforced by the armed vessels Nos. 2 and 3, and a large gun-boat, they returned to their former anchorage between Long-key and Key-chapel. I was now of opinion that the enemy would alter his mode of attack, and endeavour to make a landing on the main land to the northward of our posts, at the Haul-over. Under this idea, I began to prepare small vessels and gun-boats, in which I meant to embark with 200 men, including detachments of his Majesty's 63d and 6th West India regiments, and of the royal artillery, with one howitzer and two field pieces, six pounders. With this force it was my intention to block up the channel between the main and the western point of Hicks's keys, and to obstruct as much as possible a landing in that quarter; or, if foiled in both of these objects, to throw the whole strength into the works at the Haul-over, and to defend that post to the last extremity; while a body of experienced bushmen, all good shots, and under orders for that purpose, should hang on the flanks and rear of the enemy.

"On the morning of Monday the 10th of September, fourteen of the largest vessels of the Spanish fleet weighed anchor, and at nine o'clock brought to, about a mile and half distant from our fleet. Captain Moss was then of opinion that they meant to delay the attack till the following day, but nine of them got under weigh about noon; these carried each two twenty-four pounders in the bow, and two eighteen pounders in the stern; one schooner carried twenty-two, and all the rest from eight to fourteen guns in their waists; and every one of them, besides being crowded with men, towed a large launch full of soldiers; the other five vessels, with several large launches, all full of men, remained at this last anchorage, at the distance of a mile and a half. Our fleet was drawn up with his Majesty's ship Merlin in the centre, and directly abreast of the channel; the sloops with heavy guns and the gun-boats, in some advance to the northward, were on her eastern and western flanks. The enemy came down in a very handsome manner, and with a good countenance in a line abreast, using both sails and

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Annual Register, 1799, p. 4.

oars. About half after two o'clock, Captain Moss made the signal to engage, which was obeyed with a cool and determined firmness, that, to use his own expression to me on the occasion, would have done credit to veterans. The action lasted about two hours and a half, when the Spaniards began to fall into confusion, and soon afterwards cut their cables and sailed and rowed off, assisted by a great number of launches, which took them in tow. Captain Moss, on seeing them retreat, made the signal for our vessels to chase, but night coming on and rendering a pursuit too dangerous in a narrow channel and difficult navigation, they were soon after recalled.

"At half after three in the afternoon, I received a letter from Captain Moss, stating that the enemy was preparing to attack him, and requiring all the assistance which I could give. I immediately ordered as many men to embark and proceed to his assistance, as small craft to carry them could be procured. The alacrity shown on this occasion was great indeed; but as a requisition of this nature was by no means expected, the necessary arrangements had not been made for so speedily embarking the troops, and of consequence some irregularity ensued, for the cannonade being distinctly heard, and a certainty of an engagement having taken place, it became impossible to restrain the eagerness of the colonial troops, who, possessing canoes, dories, and pit-pans, without thought or retrospect of those left behind, hastened with impetuosity to join their companions and share their danger; hence arose difficulty and disappointment to the regular troops, who, being under arms and anxious to proceed with all expedition, suffered delay from want of the necessary boats and craft to embark in.

"As soon as I saw seventeen craft of different descriptions, having on board 200 men, set off with orders to rally round the Merlin, I immediately joined them, in hope of assisting Captain Moss, and harassing the enemy; but although we were on board the Merlin, a distance of three leagues and a half, in the wind's eye, we were too late to have any share in the action. But I am of opinion, that the sight of so many small craft full of men, coming up with velocity, hastened the return of the enemy, and that their appearance on the following day, as well as the junction of two armed ships, the Juba and Columbia, which I had ordered round to St. George's key on the 9th, induced the fleet to prepare for returning to their respective posts. The Spaniards remained under Key-chapel until the 15th, on the morning of which they made various movements, and in the course of the day, some of them anchored under Key-caulker.

"On the morning of the 16th, it was discovered that they had stolen off. Eight of their largest vessels got out to sea, and stood to the northward, the remainder, being twenty-three in number,

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Annual Register, 1799, p. 4.

shaped their course for Baccalar. We have every reason to believe that the enemy suffered much in the action of the 10th, as well in killed and wounded, as in the hulls and rigging of the vessels engaged; and I am happy to inform your lordship, that we had not a single man hurt, and that no injury was done to any of our vessels deserving of notice.

“ It would be unjust, my lord, to mention the names of any officers, either of the military or militia, on account of any particular service performed by them, for the conduct of all being such as to merit my best thanks, no particular distinction can be made. It is also unnecessary for me to say anything respecting Captain Moss ; his penetration in discovering and activity in defeating the views of the enemy, his coolness and steady conduct in action, point him out as an officer of very great merit. The expedition was commanded by Arthur O'Neil, a field-marshal in the armies of Spain, and captain-general of the province of Yucatan. The Campeachy fleet was commanded by Captain Bocca Negra. 2000 soldiers were embarked, and distributed in proportion to the dimensions of the vessels, on board the fleet, which consisted of thirty-one, and navigated by 500 seamen.

“ Thomas Barrow.”

Upon the 10th of May, Brigadier-General Thomas Maitland, the commander-in-chief of his Majesty's forces in St. Domingo, sent the following account of his proceedings to the British government.

“ Upon the 22d of last month, I came to the resolution of immediately evacuating the towns of Port-au-Prince and St. Marc's, with their dependencies, together with the parish of Arcahaye; and it is now with great pleasure I have the honour of acquainting you, that this measure has been carried into complete effect, without the smallest loss of any kind, and in a manner, I flatter myself, to give perfect satisfaction, as far as under the circumstances it was possible, to all the French inhabitants and planters, whether they chose to follow the fortune of his Majesty's arms, or to remain in the part of the colony about to be evacuated.

“ In considering the modes of effecting this very difficult but important object, there seemed to me but two in any degree practicable; the one, to withdraw the small British force, and such of the colonial troops as it was immediately possible to induce to go with us, in a precipitate manner, after blowing up the forts ; the other, to state fairly my determination, and acting as events occurred, to endeavour in a deliberate way to withdraw the whole of our stores and force, and at the same time to attempt to obtain some terms for the numerous inhabitants, who, either from necessity or choice, wished to remain. The first of these measures seemed to me (how-

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Annual Register, 1798, p. 78. General Maitland's Dispatches.

ever safe to the British) to be so perfectly contrary to the spirit of generosity and liberality, which has ever actuated the British nation, and so certain of being attended with immediate and shocking scenes of bloodshed among the inhabitants, whose natural impetuosity of character would be increased by contending passions, deluded hopes, and different interests, that I determined at once to set it aside; and I begun on the 23d ultimo, in consequence of adopting the second, to embark the heavy stores of every description, stating my full determination to all the parties concerned, and sending at the same time a flag of truce to General Toussaint L'Ouverture at Gonaives, to acquaint him with my resolution, and leaving to his option, either to obtain the possessions we evacuated a heap of ruins, or in a state of perfect order, provided he would guarantee, in a solemn manner, the lives and properties of such persons as chose to remain.

"General Toussaint immediately agreed to the last proposition; and sent to Port-au-Prince, on the 28th instant, a confidential officer, who having met Lieutenant-Colonel Nightingall, deputy-adjutant-general, on my part, on the 30th of April, the accompanying agreement was mutually exchanged and ratified by both parties.

"The stipulation in favour of the inhabitants and planters afforded them the only security in my power to obtain, and with which they were so entirely satisfied, that, although at first they had universally resolved to follow the King's forces, yet, upon hearing of this agreement in their favour, many of them, who had actually embarked, relanded, and I think I may safely assure you, there are not ten rich proprietors who have ultimately upon this occasion quitted their properties. By the 6th instant, the whole of the heavy British stores of every description being embarked, and all the French brass guns and mortars, with such of the inhabitants as voluntarily wished to go, and all the merchandize belonging to the British merchants, I ordered the parish of L'Arcahaye to be evacuated, which was accordingly done on the 7th at noon. On the 8th, at two o'clock in the morning, I withdrew the whole of the force from Port-au-Prince, and embarked it at Fort Bizoton; and on the 9th, in the morning, the whole fleet sailed to its different destinations. I have not heard from Colonel Grant, who commanded at St. Marc's, but I have every reason to believe he evacuated that place on the 6th or 7th of this month; and I entertain no doubt but that he is now at the Mole, where I ordered him to proceed with his garrison. You will readily believe, that on such an occasion much military precaution and much exertion in all the departments must have been necessary, as well for the honour and security of his Majesty's arms, as to enable me to move off within a reasonable period. Of the conduct of the officers and

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Annual Register, 1798, p. 78. General Maitland's Dispatches.

men of his Majesty's British and colonial forces, I have nothing to say but what tends infinitely to their credit. To the heads of departments I feel myself extremely indebted for the zeal and activity with which they seconded my wishes, most particularly to Lieutenant-Colonels Nightingall and Littlehales, deputies adjutant and quarter-master-generals; and to Captain Spicer commanding the royal artillery; nor can I here omit doing myself the pleasure of signifying to you what very essential aid I have received from the zeal and intelligence of Mr. Wigglesworth, his Majesty's commissary-general. To the royal navy I am under every obligation for their cordial assistance throughout the whole of this service; to Captains Couchet and Ogilvie, of his Majesty's ships Abergavenny and Thunderer, it is principally owing that I was enabled to carry my wishes into early effect. Lieutenant Young of the navy, chief agent for transports, conducted himself in the execution of this arduous task in such a manner, that I should neglect a very material though pleasant part of my duty, were I not to seize this opportunity to recommend him in the strongest manner to your notice. He is a very old officer, but his length of services has neither impaired his zeal nor diminished his activity.

"I have the honour to be, &c.,

"Thomas Maitland,

"Brigadier General commanding in St. Domingo."

Conditions agreed upon between Lieutenant-Colonel Nightingall, Deputy-Adjutant-General to His Britannic Majesty's Forces, and M. Huin, Adjutant-General to the Army of General Toussaint L'Ouverture, who are respectively invested with full Powers for that Purpose.

"1. The towns of Port-au-Prince, Saint Marc's, and their dependencies, with their present works, and the parish of L'Arcahaye, shall be left to General Toussaint L'Ouverture in the state agreed upon between us, viz. all the iron guns to be rendered unserviceable, except three or four, by verbal agreement between us, in a given time which shall be fixed at the period when the British forces can conveniently be withdrawn.

"2. As an express condition, and in consequence of the first article, General Toussaint L'Ouverture engages, in the most solemn and positive manner, to guarantee the lives and properties of all the inhabitants who may choose to remain.

"3. In order to facilitate and accomplish these conditions it is agreed, that there shall be a suspension of arms for a limited time, not exceeding five weeks from this day.

Annual Register, 1798, p. 78. General Maitland's Dispatches.

"Done on board his Majesty's ship Abergavenny, in the road of Port-au-Prince, this 30th day of April, 1798.

"(Signed) HUIN, Adj.-Gen. to the army of the French republic.
"M. NIGHTINGALL, Dep.-Adj.-Gen. to his Majesty's forces."

After the treaty was signed, Toussaint paid General Maitland a visit, and was received with military honours. After partaking of a grand entertainment, he was presented by General Maitland, in the name of his Majesty, with a splendid service of plate, and put in possession of the government house, which had been built and furnished by the English. General Maitland, previous to the embarkation of the troops, returned the visit at Toussaint's camp; and such was his confidence in the integrity of his character, that he proceeded through a considerable extent of country, full of armed Negroes, with only three attendants.

Roume, the French commissioner, wrote a letter to Toussaint on this occasion, advising him to seize his guest as an act of duty to the republic. On the route, General Maitland was secretly informed of Roume's treachery; but in full reliance on the honour of Toussaint, he determined to proceed. On arriving at headquarters, he was desired to wait. It was some time before Toussaint made his appearance; at length, however, he entered the room with two open letters in his hand. "There, general," said he, "before we talk together, read these; one is a letter from the French commisary — the other is my answer. I could not see you till I had written my reply, that you might be satisfied how safe you were with me, and how incapable I am of baseness."

At the time Toussaint signed the treaty with General Maitland, his force in the northern province amounted to something less than 40,000 men; but they were soon increased to nearly double that number.

On the 26th of October, Toussaint was declared governor of the French part of the island of St. Domingo.[1]

Quarterly Review for September, 1819, p. 442.
Annual Register, 1805, p. 95. Rainsford's St. Domingo.

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[1] Toussaint L'Overture was born in 1745, a slave, on the estate of the Count de Noé, at a small distance from Cape François. Without any other opportunity than was equally possessed by those around him, he learned to read, write, and use figures. His good conduct attracted the attention of the manager of the estate, M. Bagou de Libertas, who withdrew Toussaint from the fields, and made him his postilion. By kindness to the animals under his care, he secured their obedience to his directions in an extraordinary manner, as their proofs of docility exhibited in Europe. At twenty-five Toussaint married, and the inviolability with which the vow was kept, conferred respectability on his children. His favourite books were the Abbe Raynal's works, a French translation of Epictetus, and latterly the ancient historians. Among the leaders of the revolt were several of his friends; he prepared for the emigration of his friend Mr. Bagou, procured his escape with his family, and

The legislature of St. Christopher's passed an act, directing that in all cases of manumission security shall be given in a bond, that the person so manumitted shall not become chargeable to the parish.

1799.

City of Margarita, 28*th Jan.* 1799. — " Don Joseph Antolin del Campo, notary public to the government, and cabildo, in the island of Margarita, and scrivener of the royal domains, informs the public, that the governor of Cumana having addressed a representation to the captain-general of this department, accompanied by the minutes of the council of war, which it was deemed necessary to assemble in consequence of the information that an expedition was preparing in the island of Martinico, destined against this province, and of other councils assembled in the Caracas, in order to diminish, as much as possible, the enemy's forces, and increase the discontent which is observed among the troops in the English service, Germans, French emigrants, and even in the English themselves, these rewards are offered. To every soldier who deserts with his arms, 25 ps.-fs.: for every musket he may bring besides, eight dollars; and in proportion for every other supernumerary weapon. To those who desert without arms, sixteen dollars. To the seamen who contribute to desertion and bring deserters, whether Spaniards, Germans, English, or any other nation, reward shall be given according to the number of deserters they bring, and to the said deserters will be given every aid and protection, and admittance into the service of Spain to those who may be fit for it.

" One hundred dollars to the person or persons who can prove they have taken by force, and shall present to the governor of Cumana, any corporal; 300 for a serjeant, 2000 for a sub-lieutenant or lieutenant, 3000 for a captain, 5000 for a lieutenant-colonel or colonel, 8000 for a brigadier or major-general, 12,000 for a

Mathieson's Short Review of the Reports of the African Institution, p. 37.
Antepara's South American Emancipation, London, 1810, p. 192.

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embarked produce to form a provision for their maintenance, and sent them several supplies afterwards. When his master was in safety, Toussaint joined a corps under the command of a Black called Biassou, and was appointed second in command. Biassou was deprived of his command for cruelty, and Toussaint appointed to the command of his division, and afterwards to be general-in-chief. He was above the middle stature. His manners and deportment were elegant, when occasion required, but easy and familiar in common. He received in public a general and voluntary respect, which he was anxious to prevent by the most pleasing civilities. His uniform was a blue jacket with a large red cape falling over the shoulders, red cuffs, with eight rows of gold lace on the arms, and a pair of large gold epauletts thrown back, scarlet waistcoat and pantaloons, with half boots, round hat with a red feather and a national cockade, and a very large sword. He was a fine horseman, and travelled with uncommon rapidity. Marinet, an Italian ecclesiastic, the Abbé Moliere, and M. Pascal, a descendant of the writer of that name, were always about his person.

Rainsford's Empire of Hayti.

commander-in-chief, and 20,000 for the governor of Trinidad, Don Thomas Picton. With notification that these sums shall be increased according to the number and class of the subjects that may be taken and presented to the governor of Cumana; and also that these rewards will be punctually paid to the captor or captors, whether natives or foreigners; and it is declared, if they are Indians (besides the above rewards) they shall have and they are hereby offered, in the King's name, a perpetual exemption from personal tribute, for themselves and for their legitimate offspring, and 300 dollars reward; and if the captors were slaves they shall be made free, and the same freedom shall be granted to the English slaves who pass over to the Spanish dominion. That all Spaniards who may be in the English service, either by sea or land, and return to us, will be pardoned the crime of desertion."

Sir H. Parker, when he inclosed the following letter to the admiralty, says, when speaking of the action, it is " as daring and gallant an enterprize as is to be found in our naval annals: it adds infinite honour to Captain Hamilton, as an officer, for his conception of the service he was about to undertake. This was, sir, his disposition for the attack, which was, that a number of chosen men, to the amount of fifty with himself, should board, and the remainder in the boats to cut the cable, and take the ship in tow. From this manœuvre he had formed the idea, that while he was disputing for the possession of the ship, she was approaching the Surprize, who was lying close into the harbour, and in case of being beat out of the Hermione, he would have an opportunity of taking up the contest upon more favourable terms."

Captain Hamilton's Letter.

" SIR, " Surprize, Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica, November 1, 1799.

" The honour of my country, and the glory of the British navy, were strong inducements for me to make an attempt to cut out, by the boats of his Majesty's ships under my command, his Majesty's late ship Hermione, from the harbour of Porto Cavallo, where there are about 200 pieces of cannon mounted on the batteries. Having well observed her situation on the 22d and 23d ult., and the evening of the 24th being favourable, I turned the hands up to acquaint the officers and ship's company of my intentions to lead them to the attack, which was handsomely returned with three cheers, and that they would all follow to a man: this greatly increased my hopes, and I had little doubt of succeeding. The boats, containing 100 men, including officers, at half past twelve on the morning of the 25th (after having beat the launch of the ship, which carried a twenty-four pounder and twenty men, and receiving several guns and small arms from the frigate) boarded; the forecastle was

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. iii. p. 310. vol. v. p. 6.

taken possession of without much resistance; the quarter deck disputed the point a quarter of an hour, where a dreadful carnage took place; the main deck held out much longer, and with equal slaughter; nor was it before both cables were cut, sail made on the ship, and boats a-head to tow, that the main deck could be called ours. They last of all retreated to the 'tween decks, and continued firing till their ammunition was expended; then, and not until then, did they cry for quarter. At two o'clock, the Hermione was completely ours, being out of gun-shot from the fort, which had for some time kept up a tolerable good fire. From the captain, Don Romond de Chalas, I am informed she was nearly ready for sea, mounting forty-four guns, with a ship's company of 321 officers and sailors, 56 soldiers, and 15 artillery-men on board. Every officer and man on this expedition behaved with an uncommon degree of valour and exertion; but I consider it my duty to mention the very gallant conduct, as well as the aid and assistance, at a particular crisis, I received from Mr. John Mullen, surgeon and volunteer, and Mr. Maxwell, gunner, even after the latter was dangerously wounded. As the frigate was the particular object of your order of the 17th of September, I have thought proper to return into port with her. Enclosed I transmit you a list of captures during the cruize; also two lists of killed and wounded.

"I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

"E. Hamilton."

Captain Hamilton and twelve men were wounded.

A List of the Killed and Wounded on board the Spanish frigate Hermione, late his Majesty's ship Hermione, in Porto Cavallo, October 25, 1799; *and General Statement of the Complement on board.*

Prisoners landed at Porto Cavallo the same day, out of which there were ninety-seven wounded, mostly dangerous -	228
Escaped in the launch which was rowing guard round the ship, with a twenty-four pounder - - - - - -	20
On shore on leave, one lieutenant, one captain of troops, four pilots, and one midshipman - - - - - - -	7
Swam on shore from the ship - - - - - -	15
Remain prisoners on board - - - - - - -	3
Killed - - - - - - - - - -	119
Total	392

(Signed) E. Hamilton.

Captain Hamilton was wounded in six places, and bruised all over the body, the principal wound being on the left temple, with the butt

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Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 6.

end of a musket, which broke over his head, and knocked him down senseless on the deck; he received also a severe wound by the cut of a sabre on the left thigh, one also on the right thigh by a pike, another on the right shin bone by a grape shot, one finger was much cut, and his loins much bruised.

It is to be hoped that the reports circulated, of many being stabbed in their hammocks, was untrue.

Captain Hamilton's boats cut out a privateer schooner of ten guns, and two sloops, from the harbour of Aruba, on the 15th of October, when Mr. J. Busey, acting lieutenant, was killed.

The assembly of Jamaica voted 300 guineas for the purchase of a sword to Captain E. Hamilton of his Majesty's ship Surprize, for cutting the Hermione out of Porto Cavallo.

Captain Lobb, of his Majesty's ship Crescent, with a convoy, fell in with a Spanish squadron off the Mona passage, and contrived not only to save them all, except one, but to capture a corvette from the enemy. He should tell his own story.

Captain Lobb's Letter.

" Sir, " Crescent, Port Royal, November 22, 1799.

" I am exceedingly sorry to acquaint you, that on the dawn of the 15th instant, the S.W. end of Porto Rico bearing N.E. ten or twelve leagues, we unfortunately fell in with a squadron belonging to the enemy, consisting of a line of battle ship, frigate, and corvette. As the two former were directly in our course on the larboard tack, I made the convoy's signal to haul to the wind on the starboard tack; made sail to reconnoitre them; and on joining the Calypso, which had previously chased, perfectly coincided with Captain Baker, that they were enemies, and made signals to the convoys for that purpose. The line of battle ship and frigate keeping close together, I was in great hopes of drawing them from the convoy, by keeping within random shot to windward, and bore up for that purpose, making the Calypso's signal to chase N.W., the direction the body of the convoy was then in: at nine the enemy tacked, and I was under the necessity of making the signal to disperse. The Calyspo bore up for that part of the convoy that were running to leeward. The corvette, which had been seen some time before, was standing for the ships that had kept their wind; I immediately made sail to relieve them, and had the good fortune to capture her. The enemy were previously chasing the ships to leeward, and I was happy to observe them haul their wind, I suppose, on perceiving the situation of the corvette; but this, as well as their other manœuvres during the course of the day, appeared so very undetermined, that they did not take the necessary steps to prevent our taking possession of her; nor had they brought to any of the convoy at dark, notwith-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 6. Gazette Letters, vol. iii. pp. 139. 146.

standing they had been near them for twelve hours; and their situation was such as to give me sanguine hopes not any have been captured. The squadron proved to be Spanish, from St. Domingo, bound to the Havana, consisting of the Asia, of sixty-four guns and 550 men, Commodore Don Francisco Montes; Amphitrite, of forty-four guns and 360 men, Captain Don Diego Villagomez; Galgo, of sixteen guns and 100 men, Captain Don Jose de Arias.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"W. G. Lobb."

Surinam capitulated to the British squadron under the command of Vice-Admiral Lord H. Seymour on the 20th of August. The governor, Frederici, conceded to Berbice the track of country between the Devil's Creek and the river Courantine, a track of coast extending nearly fifty miles.

On the 31st of August, Vice-Admiral Lord H. Seymour reported the capture of the colony of Surinam, and sent Lieutenant Senhouse, in the Requin, home with the dispatch. It does not contain any particulars, but that the French corvette, L'Hussar, twenty-nine pounders, and Camphaan, a Dutch brig of 16 guns taken in the river, had been commissioned by him, and Lieutenant Cole appointed to the command of the former, and Lieutenant Thwaites to the latter.[1]

On the 26th of August, Captain Western, in his Majesty's ship Tamer, captured the Republicane, national corvette, Captain Le Bozée, of thirty-two guns and 220 men, off Surinam, after an action of ten minutes. The French had nine killed and twelve wounded, the English two wounded.

His Majesty's ship Solebay, thirty-two guns, Captain Poyntz, attacked four French corvettes near Cape Tiburon, St. Domingo — they were at anchor. Captain Poyntz brought the Solebay guns to bear upon them — boarded them with the boats — cut their cables,

Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 182. Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. iii. p. 139.—p. 140. Captain Western's Official Letter.

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[1] Lord H. Seymour's squadron with Lieutenant-General T. Trigg, at the capture of Surinam, on the 20th of August, 1799, consisted of

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
His Majesty's ship Prince of Wales	98	Vice-Admiral Lord H. Seymour, Captain A. Renow.
Invincible	74	—— W. Cayley.
Tamer	38	—— T. Western.
Unite	38	—— J. P. Beresford.
Lapwing	28	—— T. Harvey.
Daphne	20	—— R. Matson.
Syren	32	—— T. Le M. Gosselin.
Amphitrite	28	—— C. Ekins.
Requin	12	—— Lt. W. W. Senhouse.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.

and brought off the whole squadron.[1] Captain Poyntz carried his prizes to Jamaica, and landed 500 prisoners at Kingston.

His Majesty's schooner Fox, Lieutenant James Wooldridge, sailed from Jamaica the 5th of September, to land General Bowles, chief of the Creek Indians, in the Gulf of Mexico. The 28th of September she struck on a sand bank, bilged, and fell over on her larboard side. The officers and men remained all night in the rigging, the boats were all stove. Next morning they all got safe from the wreck, and saved a small quantity of pork before the vessel went to pieces. Upon this key they remained thirty-two days; and when taken off by the Providence privateer, were all much exhausted.

Upon the 2d of June, Rigaud, the general commanding in the southern departments of St. Domingo, issued a proclamation addressed to the inhabitants, in which he stated, that he had been informed that emigrants, and, amongst others, those whom he had himself sent out of the colony, had found protection with Toussaint, and had calumniated him to that general; that had those calumnies been restrained to reproaches, or ill-founded accusations, he should have treated them with merited contempt; but that these reproaches had been raised into menaces against themselves and against the republic. He observed, that Toussaint had charged him with raising the standard of revolt against the republic, whilst he had shewn on every occasion the greatest respect for the constituted authorities; combating the English and their partisans wherever he found them, and which he would still do had he the command of those places where Toussaint gave them the liberty of traffic. He stated that his greatest crime was his attachment to the cause of the republic, and his hatred towards its enemies. That the general-in-chief, in contempt of the laws, and treading under foot the interests of the republic, and the safety of the colony, had ordered an attack to be made on the southern part of the colony: that had this meditated attack been a personal affair between himself and the general, he would have withdrawn himself for the sake of peace; but as the troops of the west had taken a threatening attitude, without the general's making him acquainted with the cause, he was resolved to repel force by force, and not abandon the colony to the fury of the English and emigrants, who were received and welcomed by Toussaint in the departments of the west and north, and wherever

Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. iii. pp. 152. 235.
Annual Register, 1799, p. 393.

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[1] *Names of Vessels captured by Captain Poyntz, near Tiburon.*

L'Egyptien	20 guns	200 men.
A corvette	18 —	120 —
A brig corvette	16 —	100 —
Another	16 —	100 —
	70 guns.	520 men.

he had the command. A bloody and desperate engagement took place between the troops of both generals; and Toussaint was about to follow up the advantages he had gained, when an order arrived from France, which deprived Rigaud of his command.

In May, the Methodists at Nevis had nearly 700 members in society. About this time some land belonging to one of their little chapels in the country was appropriated to the burial of their dead. Some persons, who inhabited a house contiguous to the spot, indicted the place as a nuisance; the subject was not brought to a legal issue. The plaintiff sold the land to a gentleman "who had long felt the prosperity of the gospel near his heart."

In May, a Methodist missionary arrived at the Bermudas; he was sent out from England in consequence of a letter from the master of his Majesty's ship Thetis, who recommended the society in England so to do. By the end of the year he had joined fifty-nine members in society, all of whom were Whites; and a subscription was commenced for building a chapel. A sufficiency of employment was now found for two Methodist missionaries at St. Vincent's, "both town and country solicited preaching; and Whites, as well as Blacks, were willing to be taught of God."

The number of Methodists in society at Jost Van Dykes amounted to nearly 300 souls; and in the whole of the Virgin Islands to 2646, of whom no more than seventeen were Whites.

Several slaves revolted from their masters, some of whom were Methodists. The assembly at Tortola examined the missionaries as to the doctrines they taught, and passed a resolution, "that the slaves should not henceforth be permitted to assemble together on the estates, either to pray or exhort, by day or by night, either on week-days or Sundays, unless a preacher was with them, lest they should either form conspiracies or lay plans for future revolts." They also required of the missionaries, "that none in future should be admitted into the society, unless they had previously obtained a ticket from their respective owners, signifying their approbation." These restrictions, Dr. Coke says, tended very much to impede the progress of the gospel.

" Extract from Mr. Canning's speech. — " Trust not the masters of slaves in what concerns legislation for slavery. However specious their laws may appear, depend upon it they must be ineffectual in their operation. It is in the nature of things that they should be so. — Let then the British House of Commons do their part themselves! — Let them not delegate the trust of doing it to those who cannot execute that trust fairly! — Let the evil be remedied by an assembly of freemen, by the government of a free people, and not by the masters of slaves. Their laws can never reach, could never cure the evil. — There is something in the nature of

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 281.; vol. iii. pp. 23, 123, 124, 237.
Slave Colonies, 1825, p. 130.

absolute authority, in the relation between master and slave, which makes despotism in all cases and under all circumstances an incompetent and unsure executor, even of its own provisions, in favour of the objects of its power."

The third section of the Melioration Act of Dominica, passed this year, enacts, that every Sunday the slaves shall attend divine worship, and that the owners, &c. "shall not fail to exhort all male and female slaves, who may be unbaptized, to receive the holy sacrament of baptism." Sir George Prevost, the governor of this island, in his official return to Earl Camden, in 1805, states this act "to have been considered in the colony only as a political measure to avert the interference of the mother country in the management of slaves;" and therefore to have been wholly neglected in practice.

Table of West India Exports — Return to House of Commons, 1806, *for* 1799.

	Hhds. of Sugar.
Jamaica	94,500
Barbadoes	11,400
Antigua	8,300
St. Kitt's	9,900
Nevis	3,850
Montserrat	2,595
Tortola, &c.	3,105
Dominica	5,200
St. Vincent's	12,120
Grenada	12,000
Tobago	8,800
Trinidad	4,500
Total	176,270

The English inhabitants of Trinidad presented Captain E. S. Dickson, of his Majesty's sloop La Victorieuse, with a sword of the value of 100 guineas, as "the reward of military virtue," and a testimony of their gratitude and esteem.

Sir C. Lindsay, Bart., captain of his Majesty's ship Daphne, was going off to his ship from Demarara, when his boat swamped. Two of the crew reached the shore alive, one of whom died soon afterwards. The body of Sir Charles was also washed on shore.

Upon the 16th of October, Captain Philpot, of his Majesty's ship Echo, sent two boats, under the command of Lieutenant Napier and Mr. Wood, the boatswain, to cut out any vessels they could from the Bay of Laguadille, in Puerto Rico. They arrived at the anchorage about two in the morning, and were hailed by an armed

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Stephen on West India Slavery, p. 207. Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 28. Naval Chronicle, vol. ii. p. 82. ; vol. iv. p. 246.

brig, moored about half a cable's length from the shore, protected by two field pieces, one eighteen-pounder, and some smaller guns, placed on the beach. The boats boarded her in the bow. The Frenchmen and Spaniards, about thirty in number, though all prepared for action, made the best of their way down the hatchways. By the time the cables were cut, the guns on the beach opened their fire upon the boats; the third shot sunk the pinnace. The brig was several times hulled; but a light breeze soon carried her out of gun-shot. None of the English were hurt. The brig carried twelve four-pounders, was commanded by an Enseign de Vaisseau, and had a valuable cargo on board.

Upon the 30th of March, Captain Otway, in his Majesty's ship Trent, discovered a Spanish ship and three schooners in a small bay about seven leagues to the northward of Cape Roxo, in Puerto Rico. Lieutenants Belchier and Balderston were sent with the ships' boats, protected by the Sparrow cutter, to cut them out from under a five-gun battery. Lieutenant Belchier and Lieutenant M'Gee, of the marines, stormed the battery, and destroyed the guns. The ship and one schooner were brought out by the boats; the other two schooners were destroyed by the enemy. The English had only three men wounded on this occasion.[1]

The assembly of Jamaica voted £10,000 as a gratuity for the bread fruit tree expedition. £5000 of the above sum were voted to Captain Bligh, as commander on that service.

In May or June, 1799, Nathaniel Lucas, Esq., received at Barbadoes some East India seeds from Langford Millington, Esq., a member of the English board of agriculture, with a request to distribute them in the island, which was done; but only one seed of the teak wood vegetated, and that was at Sunbury, an estate belonging to John Henry Barrow, Esq.: this tree flourished. In July 1803, "it was upwards of twenty-five feet high, thriving luxuriantly, and at least five inches diameter, six feet from the ground." Being an evergreen, the leaves very large, and the lateral branches very numerous and extensive, it was bowed down very considerably by their weight and the force of the trade winds, though it was in a sheltered situation. For this reason, Mr. Barrow cut off the lateral branches. This tree may prove a valuable acquisition, — boats built with this wood are said not to be eaten by the worms.

The commerce of the Bahama islands was stated to have increased rapidly under the administration of Colonel William Dowdeswell.

Annual Register, 1799, p. 41. Captain Otway's Letter.—Captain Vesey's Letter.— 1800, p. 9. Captain Philpot's Letter.

Naval Chronicle, Gazette Letters, vol. ii. pp. 342. 495. 504.; vol. xvii. p. 129.

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[1] Captain Vesey, in his Majesty's ship L'Amaranthe, upon the 14th of April, captured a privateer schooner, Le Vangeur, from Cuba to Jeremie, which had fourteen men killed and five wounded, out of thirty-six that were on board her, before she struck.

Captain Ekins, of his Majesty's ship Amphitrite, to windward of Antigua, captured the Duquesne, private brig, sixteen guns and 129 men, belonging to Guadaloupe.

Besides New Providence, the following islands were in cultivation, the chief staple was cotton: — Great and Little Exuma, Long Island, Crooked Island, Eleuthera Harbour Island, Abaco Andros Island, Rum Key, the Caycos', Turk's Island, &c.

Vice-Admiral Harvey, in his letter from St. Christophers, the 27th of July, states, that since his former letter of the 21st ult. his fleet had taken four armed vessels and two others.[1]

From the report of the committee of legislature in Jamaica, December the 20th, 1799, there were then 15,343 acres in coffee plantations; 105,232 in sugar; 7771 in provision grounds.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2128 Whites, 4594 free people of colour, 13,311 slaves, 1143 Indians; total 21,176.

From a return made to the House of Commons, May the 6th, 1806, it appears that Great Britain imported from the British West Indies 123,066 cwt. of coffee, and 193,000 hhds. of sugar, of which 82,527 cwt. of coffee, and 95,000 hhds. of sugar came from Jamaica; — and exported 2,628,470 cwt. of sugar, 6,270,449 gallons of rum, 132,259 cwt. of coffee, and 7,529,881 lbs. of cotton.

Admiral Sir Hyde Parker, commander-in-chief at Jamaica, reported that between the 12th of February 1799 and the 27th of October 1799, the fleet under his command had taken and destroyed forty-seven armed and 225 merchant vessels.

On the 17th of May, Vice-Admiral Harvey, at Martinico, reported the capture of seven merchant vessels by the ships under his command.[2]

Naval Chronicle, Gazette Letters, vol. ii. pp.243. 249. 309. 346. 530.; vol. iii. pp. 68. 318.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 14. 16.
Political Account of Trinidad. London, 1807.

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[1] L'Austriana, Spanish letter of marque, of twenty-four brass guns and 100 men, with a valuable cargo, bound to Vera Cruz, was captured November the 25th, by Captain Bennett, in his Majesty's ship Amphion, in company with his Majesty's ship Alarm, and caried into Jamaica.

[2] The Charlotte, (schooner) of 10 guns, Lieutenant Thickness, was taken off Cape François, and retaken November the 22d near Cape Tiburon.

The Musquito, 16 guns, Lieutenant White, was taken by two Spanish frigates off Cuba.

The Fox, (schooner) 18 guns, Lieutenant Woolridge, was lost in the Gulf of Mexico, September the 28th. The crew were saved.

L'Ameranthe, 16 guns, Captain J. Blake, was lost on the coast of Florida, in September, and many of the crew perished on shore through hunger.

Captain Allen, in his Majesty's ship Echo, on the 3d of July, off the Dry Tortugas, captured L'Amazon, French ship letter of marque, ten guns and 60 men, and carried her into Jamaica.

On the 14th of February, Captain Barton, in his Majesty's ship Concorde, to windward of Antigua, captured La Prudente, ship privateer of 18 guns and 100 men.

On the 31st of May, Captain Ekins, in his Majesty's ship Amphitrite, off Martinico, captured the Democrat privateer, of twelve guns and eighty men, belonging to Guadaloupe.——*Steele's Naval Chronologist.* — *Naval Chronicle,* vol. ii. p. 153. *Official Letter. Vice-Admiral Harvey.*

1800.

" *Extracts from the Report of the Committee of the House of Assembly; published at Jamaica,* 1800, *by order of the house.*

" That the effects of the present war caused so great an increase in the expences incident to British vessels, fitted out and employed in the intercourse between the British colonies and the United States of America, (from which latter the former derive all the lumber required for building in most parts of the island, and for the packages of their produce, and a very great proportion of the articles of provision for the subsistence of the inhabitants,) that it was impossible for the owners of such vessels to support so ruinous a trade. The British government, in consideration of this circumstance, and the distresses to which the colonies must necessarily be subjected if they should be deprived of the necessaries which this intercourse afforded, did, in the year 1794, permit the importation, into the British colonies, of all articles the growth of the American States, in American bottoms. This salutary measure has not been attended with all the good effects expected to result therefrom, owing chiefly to the depredations committed by the French cruizers on the American commerce; and were it not, however, for this intercourse, crampt as it has been by the piracies of the enemy, this country must have been reduced to the greatest distresses. Besides the advantages derived from the supply of articles essentially necessary for the very existence of the colony, and for carrying on its plantations, a further considerable advantage has accrued by the quantity of rum exported to America, which from September 30th, 1798, to September 30th, 1799, is 10,510 puncheons and 129 casks, which was chiefly taken in return for the articles imported in American bottoms.

" That the committee observe with concern, that the exportation of commodities the growth of this colony, in American bottoms, is to be confined to the articles of rum and molasses only, after the 31st instant, under the express directions of his Majesty's ministers. This circumstance will be severely felt, as the value of sugar, coffee, and other articles hitherto permitted to be exported in such bottoms, must be replaced in bullion, to pay for the cargoes imported; and when it is considered that the only source from which specie is obtained in this country is the commerce carried on with the Spanish colonies, which, as far as relates to Spain, is contraband and unlawful, the difficulty to find a substitute for the value of sugar, coffee, and other articles so heretofore exported, to pay for the cargoes imported, must appear great in every point of view,

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Copied at Antigua, by the Author, from the Report.

and which the committee beg leave to offer for the serious consideration of the house; and they further beg leave to observe, that it is a very common practice among the importers of American cargoes in American bottoms, to carry the specie they receive in payment in this country, to be laid out in the purchases of the produce of St. Domingo, and by that means affording to our inveterate enemies the very sinews of such warlike operations as they may think proper to plan against us.

" That it is very important in the opinion of the committee, to state to the house the disadvantages experienced by the planters of this country in the article of rum, which has fallen in price in the British markets within this last year full two fifths; evidently owing to their having been scarcely any purchases thereof made by the British government, for the use of the navy and army, which in former years caused an extraordinary increase in the consumption of that article in Great Britain. The navy and army, for some time past, have been chiefly supplied with the article of spirits by foreign brandies and corn spirits imported from Hambro'. It appears from a statement of the returns made by the naval officer, that rum forms a very considerable article in the exportation from this island, by far the greater part of which was sold in the country, affording to the planters a very considerable source in money, wherewith to pay island contingencies, the diminution of which by the great fall in the price has of late been severely felt; and unless the British government shall again resort to the purchases of this article as heretofore, the committee apprehend that the prices thereof may fall still lower.

" That the foreign trade carried on in this island under the authority of the free port act, in foreign vessels in peaceable times, offered very considerable advantages, particularly by the importation of cattle and mules, the interruption of which, occasioned chiefly by the war with Spain, has been the cause of a very great rise in the prices, by which the article of fresh beef has risen to more than double what it formerly was. The same rise has taken place in the price of mules, which are essentially necessary for the carrying on plantations. In consequence of the representations made from this country to his Majesty, he was graciously pleased to suspend the operations of war, so far as related to Spaniards that have been and are induced to trade with us, under the authority and protection of the before-mentioned law, in their own bottoms. For the encouragement and protection of this trade, the commander-in-chief, by direction from the British government, grants certain certificates or passports to Spaniards, under which they, for some time, arrived in considerable numbers, in the several free ports of this island; but this trade was chiefly confined to the importation of bullion, cochineal, indigo, cotton, and drugs, and the exportation of manufactures

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imported from Great Britain, for supplying the Spanish colonies. From this commerce, many great advantages have flowed to Great Britain, and this colony has also been benefited thereby, chiefly from the importation of specie requisite for the ordinary circulation. The Spaniards have imported no considerable number of cattle or mules, since the late protection afforded them to trade with this island, as before stated. The committee have been informed from good authority, that this trade has of late considerably declined, owing to the directions given by the court of Spain, to use every means for its prevention; and also, very materially, by the interruption it has suffered from British cruizers, whose practice it has too often been to detain and bring in the vessels employed in carrying it on, on very slight grounds.

"It is with the greatest concern that the committee have to state to the house apprehensions, founded on good authority from Britain, that some of his Majesty's ministers, in order the more effectually to carry into execution plans which they have suggested as necessary in their opinion to be adopted for the security and protection of this colony, have it in contemplation, by an act of the British legislature, to resume all patents for land granted, not already settled; this measure, it is incumbent on the good people of Jamaica to resist, by all possible lawful means, since it would strike at the very existence of property, acquired under the authority of proclamations, of many acts of parliament, and our own laws, and also from the valuable considerations paid for them in quit rents to the crown.

"That the invasion or violation of the right of private property by measures of government, in all countries where attempted, have loosened the bands of social order. Should the parliament of Great Britain proceed in any such measure, it will be a direct violation of those rights we are entitled to as British subjects, and would at once annihilate that constitution, inherent to the inhabitants, of legislating for themselves in all matters relating to internal concerns, and which they have enjoyed for upwards of a century. This principle, although not publicly recognised by an act of the British parliament, has nevertheless been deemed, by all wise and just characters in Great Britain, to exist in full force, and that parliament has no right to infringe or abridge it, by enacting any law for our internal regulation.

"Nothing can so greatly contribute to the increase of white population, and that too of the description likely to be most useful for our security, as the encouragement of small settlers in the interior. That should the prospects which have hitherto been held out to people of this description, of acquiring property in land and Negroes, be taken away or in any considerable degree checked, no

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persons will adventure to this country, in which any confidence can be placed, to be employed on plantations as overseers, &c.

" That no measure that has engaged the attention of the British parliament at any time has had a more full investigation than this of the slave trade; the legislature of this country has at various times fully considered the subject in every point of view, and the committee have particularly to notice the address of the house of the 22d of December, 1797, to his Majesty, in which they have solemnly declared their right, under several acts of parliament, and by several proclamations of his royal ancestors, to the full benefit of obtaining labourers from Africa, and that they never can give up, nor do any act that may render this essential right doubtful. That there remains not a doubt in the opinion of the committee, that the advocates for an abolition of the slave trade in both houses of parliament, finding that the public clamours throughout Great Britain with respect to it (which were encouraged and fomented by the most artful and injurious misrepresentations) have in a great measure subsided, and after due reflection on the subject, that the public mind has been undeceived, now intend to effect their favourite measure of abolition in an indirect manner, by plans, which, however plausible as to the manner in which they are offered, are not less insidious, and which, if not resisted, will in their consequences involve the gradual decay of the prosperity of this valuable colony, and ultimately effect its destruction. That the act passed in the last session of parliament for regulating the slave carrying trade, is undoubtedly calculated to lessen the number of Negroes to be brought from Africa to the British colonies, by laying a direct restraint on the profits of the British trader, and thereby causing a very great rise in the price of slaves in the colonial markets. In this act are contained many new clauses, enacting new restraints and severe penalties, all tending to clog the trade with every disadvantage and difficulty.

" That from the several proceedings in the British legislature on this subject, the committee entertain the most serious apprehensions, as they all tend directly to assail and to destroy the capitals vested in the West India settlements, at the invitation, by the encouragement, and on the plighted faith of the crown and of parliament. It is too true to admit of a doubt, that the very existence of the British West India colonists and their families, as well as the security of their creditors, depend wholly on the success of those investments. The period is now arrived which requires, in self defence, that they should make the strongest protestations, calculated to avert the imminent evils with which they are threatened, by the continuance of the policy pursued by some of his Majesty's ministers, against their most sacred rights; a policy which the com-

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mittee does not hesitate to give as their opinion, is equally unwise as it is unjust and cruel.

"That whatever our enemies in Great Britain may presume to assert to the contrary, it is certain that the legislature of Jamaica *has done every thing possible to be done to render the condition of the slaves therein as favourable as is consistent with their reasonable services, and the safety of the white inhabitants.* To prove this they refer to their statutes on that subject; and within these ten years, it is particularly to be remarked, that it has been the constant endeavour of the planters of this island, unitedly as well as individually, to promote and secure the comforts of their slaves. That the same conduct will be continued there is every reason to expect, more especially as the most essential interests of proprietors are so strongly connected with the welfare and prosperity of their labourers.

"*The legislature of the island is alone competent to determine on such future measures as may be expedient, further to contribute to this very salutary object*, founded on principles of humanity and justice, as well as good policy. There can be no doubt, that the state and condition of the slaves have of late been greatly meliorated, and, from the attention and care of the legislature in enacting such further regulations as may be necessary in aid of the humane dispositions of the inhabitants, that the condition of their labourers will be further greatly improved, and population by Negroes born and reared in the country increased. But measures best calculated to forward these two important objects must be adopted gradually, in order to facilitate and effect the purposes intended. In pursuing this line of conduct, the legislature as well as the inhabitants will do all that can be reasonably expected by the British parliament, and which certainly ought to protect them against the violation of rights, which a sacred regard to national justice and good faith ought to secure to them inviolably. The being supplied with labourers from Africa, for supporting, improving, and extending settlements already made, and also for making new settlements in lands within the island, the property of individuals, is a right most sacredly pledged to us, and any attempt to take away or restrict that right, so as to abridge the supply necessary, not only to maintain the present stock and the present cultivation, but also to enable the proprietors of lands granted by the crown for the express purpose of being settled, must unavoidably defeat the lawful intentions of the inhabitants by their labour and exertions to improve their own fortunes, and thereby essentially to contribute to the riches and prosperity of the empire at large."

They then proceed to the subject of St. Domingo. They call General Maitland's treaty, "a very weak measure, and founded

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on the most mistaken policy;" — say that their safety in a great measure depends on the civil war's continuing in St. Domingo, and that it is impossible to withhold from their slaves the knowledge of an authorized intercourse between the government and "rebellious slaves of the very worst description." "What impression then (they say) may it not be apprehended will be made on the minds of our slaves, from the example held out by this intercourse? Viewing the measure in all points, the committee are decidedly of opinion, that no possible advantage can be derived to Jamaica by its continuance, but on the contrary, that it is fraught with the most imminent danger to our very existence."

Here are the reasons for the conduct of the English government with respect to the inhabitants of the magnificent island of St. Domingo; the prosperity of England has been injured for the sake of the Jamaica merchants. The independence of the inhabitants of St. Domingo was established as it were at once, in the most awful manner, and anxiously did they look to England for the right hand of friendship. How much less blood would have been shed, how much sooner their internal dissensions would have been settled, if England had sent messengers of peace among them, who can say? And as for commercial relations, they might have been of our own making, and their whole trade been confined to us, without any of the expences of a colonial establishment. If by our withholding the acknowledgment of their independence, that desideratum could have been hindered, the Jamaica merchants might then have hoped to see the people of colour reduced to slavery again, and their own system safe from them.

But as no such alternative could be expected, the danger of their hostility was increased by prohibitory restrictions, and that outlet for British manufactures lost for years.

Upon the 11th of September, the Dutch inhabitants of Curaçoa sent off to Captain Watkins, of his Majesty's ship Nereide, to claim the protection of His Britannic Majesty. The French force in possession of the west part of the island were estimated at 1500 men, who threatened to storm the principal fort that night. The Nereide proceeded immediately for the harbour, and the governor, Johan Rudolph Lauffer, surrendered the island and its dependencies to the English.

Upon the 23d of September, Captain Watkins says, in his letter to Lord Hugh Seymour, "I have now the satisfaction to inform your lordship, that the English colours are flying in this island, and that I have entered this harbour in consequence of the total evacuation of the French forces last night. I have been received with great faith, and will do my utmost in establishing the security of the principal fortress till I receive your lordship's answer for my farther conduct." Lieutenant James Hodgson was appointed to

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Annual Register, 1800, p. 99. Captain Watkins' Dispatches.

command the fortress; he had been of great service in annoying the French from a new-erected battery, which was the principal cause of their retreat. Forty-four vessels of different nations were found in the harbour, and a large quantity of naval and military stores.[1]

By the articles of capitulation, it is agreed, the island of Curaçoa, and its dependencies, shall be placed under the protection of and submit to the government of His Britannic Majesty. The inhabitants shall be secured in their persons, property, and religion, except such as shall appear to belong to the subjects of the powers now actually at war with Great Britain; such property only excepted as was on board the vessels in the harbour on the 10th instant. All vessels of war, artillery, &c. to be delivered for the use of the King. All debts due by the government of the island to be paid out of the revenue. No regulations to be made in the laws, except by mutual consent. So long as the island shall remain under the protection of his Majesty, its inhabitants shall enjoy the same rights and privileges as his subjects in the West Indies. The laws heretofore observed respecting property, shall remain in full force. Private. — As it is impossible for the inhabitants of the said island, and its dependencies, to subsist without a free intercourse with the Spanish main, the ports of Curaçoa, and its dependencies, shall be open to all Spanish vessels. Answer. — Agreed to be allowed the same free trade as the island of Jamaica.

The American frigate Constellation, of thirty-eight guns, Commodore Truxton, on the 1st of February engaged a French frigate to leeward of Guadaloupe, in which the Constellation lost her main-mast, and had thirty-nine killed and wounded. The French frigate, said to be La Vengeance of fifty-four guns, bound from Guadaloupe to France, put into Curaçoa in distress, with 160 men killed and wounded, and her masts and rigging nearly all shot away.

Naval Chronicle, vol. iv. p. 506.—p. 122. Captain Truxton's Report.

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[1] *Extract of a letter from Lieutenant Paul, to his father, from on board La Nereide frigate, Captain Watkins, of 36 guns.*

"We last night cut out a schooner from Curaçoa Bay, and this morning we sailed into the bay, and found the French and the Dutch firing upon one another. Captain Watkins called a council, and it was determined to attack both parties, which we did with great success. The Dutch soon offered to surrender up the whole island, provided we would protect them against the French, which we agreed to; and the whole of the treasure, dollars, plate, &c. belonging to the settlement, is now on board La Nereide; and the union flag is flying on all the forts.

"I was dispatched with this intelligence to Admiral Lord Hugh Seymour, commanding on this station; who immediately ordered three frigates to our support.

"I am now keeping guard over the famous French black captain, Victor Hugues, who has done so much mischief to our country this war, and who has been so long commander in Guadaloupe. He was taken on his passage to assume the government of Curacoa; which island he imagined, by the time of his arrival, would have been in quiet possession of the French." *Naval Chronicle*, vol. iv. p. 439.

Captain Milne's Letter to Lord H. Seymour.

"His Majesty's Ship Seine, off St. Domingo,
August 22.

"My Lord,

"I have the satisfaction to acquaint your lordship, that on the morning of the 20th instant I observed a ship on the starboard tack, standing to the northward, through the Mona Passage. I soon perceived she was an enemy, and made all sail in chase, with very light breezes. The wind having come to the northward, obliged her to tack, as she could not weather Cape Raphael on the St. Domingo shore; she then stood S. S. E., and made all sail. By this time it was near sun-set, and I could perceive she was a large frigate; it was near midnight before I could bring her to action, and then not so close as I could wish, as she always bore up and kept at long shot. She, however, did us considerable damage in our rigging and sails; but to appearance she suffered equally. We separated for some time, and I took that opportunity to get our rigging, &c. again in complete repair. On the morning of the 25th, I had the pleasure of bringing him to close action; and after about an hour and a half hard fighting, an officer came out on her bowsprit (the only place he could be seen from, owing to the mass of confusion, by the loss of her fore-mast, mizen-mast, and main-top-mast, having fallen on board), and said they had struck to the British flag. She was immediately taken possession of, and proved to be the French frigate the Vengeance, Citizen Pitot, Captaine de Vaisseau, commander, mounting twenty-eight eighteen pounders on her main deck, sixteen twelve pounders, and eight forty-two pounders carronades on her quarter deck and forecastle, and brass swivels on the gunwhale, with shifting guns on the main and quarter decks. The weight of metal I have mentioned in French pounds. The behaviour of the officers and ship's company was such as has always characterized the British seamen. To my first lieutenant, Mr. Cheetham, I am greatly indebted for his cool and steady behaviour, and for the amazing fire kept up from the main deck, which nothing could surpass. My second lieutenant, Mr. George Milne, fell fighting nobly, about the middle of the action. In him his Majesty has lost a valuable and as zealous an officer as any in the service. To my third lieutenant, Mr. Edveair (whom I mentioned on a former occasion, when gunner of the Pique), I am equally indebted for his services; as likewise Mr. Barclay, the master, and Mr. M'Donald, lieutenant of marines, who was taken down wounded, and came up again when dressed, but was obliged, from a second wound, to be taken below; but I am happy to state, the life of this valuable officer will be saved to render further services to his Majesty. The behaviour of the petty officers, sea-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. iv. p. 421.

men, and marines, was such as does them the highest credit. The Vengeance is a very large frigate, five years old, and exactly the dimensions of the Fisgard, in his Majesty's service, and is the ship which had the action some time since with the American frigate the Constellation. Previous to her leaving Curaçoa, she had a large supply of seamen from Guadaloupe, and was every way completely found, and bound to France. His Majesty's ship under my command has suffered much in her mast and hull, sails and rigging entirely cut to pieces. Your lordships will perceive the Vengeance is superior in size, guns, and number of men, to his Majesty's ship I have the honour to command; but nothing could withstand the steady behaviour of this ship's crew. I have the honour of enclosing a list of killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy has been very great, but I have not yet got a return.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" DAVID MILNE."

The English had one officer and twelve seamen killed, and three officers and twenty-six men wounded.

Lord H. Seymour, in his letter of the 10th of April, from Martinico, reports, that since his last of the 28th of March, five privateers had been taken by the vessels under his command.

The expences of the naval dock-yard at Jamaica, for the purchase of naval stores, and pay of artificers, amounted to above £140,000 for this year.[1]

Admiral Sir H. Parker reported, that from the 20th of February to the 3d of August, the day he sailed from Jamaica, the squadron under his command had captured 29 armed vessels and 222 merchant vessels.

Vice-Admiral Lord H. Seymour reports, that from the 27th of May to the 20th of July, his squadron at the Leeward Islands had captured sixty-two sail, fourteen of which were privateers, Lord H. Seymour dates from Jamaica, the 1st of August, 1800.

His Majesty's ship Dromedary was wrecked at 10 P. M. on the 10th of August, in passing through the Abacas (Bocas) near Trinidad. One man with a rope got from her bowsprit upon a rock; he was followed by some others, and a spar launched from the bow, by which the whole escaped. Above 500 persons, clinging to the rock, surrounded by breakers, which no boat dare approach, were fifteen hours before they were taken off by vessels sent to their

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. iii. pp. 407. 499.; vol. iv. pp. 326. 516.; vol. x. p. 139.

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[1] Captain Western, in his Majesty's ship Tamer, on the 1st of June, near Barbadoes, captured the General Massena, French privateer of eighteen guns and 150 men, after an eight hours' chase within gun-shot. *Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle,* vol. iv. p. 239; *Captain Western's Letter.*

relief by Governor Keton. They were obliged to get back again to the wreck before they could be taken off.

Colonel Carmichael of the 2d West India regiment, who commanded the troops on board, sent Captain B. W. Taylor a letter of thanks, in the name of all the officers, for his and his crew's unexampled efforts to save the troops.

Two boats from his Majesty's ship Hornet, with two from his Majesty's ship Daphne, cut a ship out from under seven batteries upon Guadaloupe. The Hon. — Graves, midshipman, is mentioned as having distinguished himself.

Upon November the 29th, Lord Seaforth was appointed governor of Barbadoes.

On July 2d an act was passed in the British parliament, to indemnify the governors, &c. of the West India islands, for permitting the importation and exportation of goods in foreign bottoms.

From a return made to the House of Commons on May the 6th, 1806, it appears that Great Britain imported from the British West Indies this year, 172,474 cwt. of coffee, and 177,830 hhds. of sugar, of which 106,223 cwt. of coffee, and 110,300 hhds. of sugar, came from Jamaica.

The produce of St. Vincent's was 16,518 heavy hhds. of sugar.

M. Nazon, an inhabitant of St. Domingo, of the quarter of Mirabalais, by judicious observations and long experience, discovered certain marks in the process for the fabrication of indigo, which secured the planter from the losses which always attended the making of it before, and sometimes amounted to a fourth.

Fifty guineas is stated as being a common price offered to a seaman at Jamaica, for the run from thence to England.[1]

His Majesty's ship Lowestoffe, and eight homeward merchantmen, with cargoes of colonial produce, were shipwrecked in August upon Inagua Grande. The loss was estimated at £600,000, exclusive of personal property.

Upon the 8th of October, Lieutenant Coryndon Boger, in his

Annual Register, 1800, pp. 118. 185.; 1801, p. 5. A. Duckworth's Dispatches.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 16. 23.
Steele's Naval Chronologist. Depon's South America, vol. i. p. 414.
Naval Chronicle, vol. iv. p. 512.; vol. xxxv. p. 247.

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[1] The Diligente, of 12 guns, was taken by Captain Lobb, in the Crescent, 36 guns, in June, on the Jamaica station.

El Carbo, Spanish packet, was taken in February, by Captain R. Rolles, in the Alarm, 32 guns, off Cape Catouche.

Cantabrian, of 18 guns, was taken, July the 27th, off the Havana, by Captain P. Halkett, in his Majesty's ship Apollo, 36 guns.

Resolution, of 18 guns, was taken and destroyed in the Gulf of Mexico, November the 20th, by Captain P. Halkett, in his Majesty's ship Apollo, 36 guns.

The Diligence, brig of 16 guns, Captain C. B. H. Ross, was lost in September, on a small island twenty leagues to the westward of the Havana. Her crew were saved by his Majesty's ship Thunderer.

The Chance, sloop of 16 guns, Captain G. S. Stovin, was upset, October the 9th, and only two officers and twenty-three men saved. *Steele's Naval Chronologist.*

Majesty's schooner Gipsy, of ten four pounders and forty-two men, captured, off the north end of Guadaloupe, Le Quiproquo, a French sloop of eight guns, six and nine pounders, and ninety-eight men, after an action of two hours and a half. The English had one killed and eleven wounded; the French five killed and eleven wounded. Rear-Admiral Duckworth styles it a "very handsome contest."

From a return made to an order of the House of Commons, May the 5th, 1806, it appears that the British sugar colonies in 1800 exported 2,413,997 cwt. of sugar, 6,231,225 gallons of rum, 180,374 cwt. of coffee, and 10,611,349 lbs. of cotton.

Captain Baker, in his Majesty's ship Calypso, on the 12th of April sent his master, Mr. W. Buckley, in a six-oared cutter, with ten men, to cruize for two days under Cape Tiburon. On the night of the 13th, they saw a schooner becalmed under the land, which they boarded under a fire of musquetry, and after a short and smart conflict upon her deck, took La Diligente, of six guns and thirty-nine men. One of the English was wounded, and seven of the French dangerously.

Captain Loring, of his Majesty's sloop Lark, sent his boats, on the 14th of March, to bring out a privateer in a bay near St. Jago de Cuba. The enemy had taken an advantageous position of two heights, forming the entrance of the bay. Lieutenant Lane was killed and the boats repulsed. Mr. Pasley, the junior lieutenant, was landed ten miles off, to march round and attack the enemy in the rear; whilst Captain Loring himself went in the boats, to repeat the attack in front. Captain Loring says, "on my arrival, Mr. Pasley had executed his orders with such expedition and judgment, that he left me no other employment than that of being a satisfied spectator to the steady and good conduct of himself and his people." The vessel had two carriage guns and small arms, and had long infested the coast of Jamaica. Captain Loring destroyed her.

Extract of a Letter, dated Liverpool, Nova Scotia, October 17th, from Captain Godfrey, of the brig Rover.

"The brig Rover, mounting fourteen four-pounders, was the present year built and fitted for war at Liverpool, in this province. She sailed under my command, the 4th of June last, on a cruise against the enemies of Great Britain, being commissioned by his excellency Sir John Wentworth, Bart. Our crew consisted of fifty-five men and boys, including myself and officers, and was principally composed of fishermen.

Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 29, 30. 32, 33.
Gazette Letters, p. 149. Captain Loring's Letter.
Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 176.

"On the 17th of the same month, in the latitude of 23° N. and longitude 54° W., we fell in with six sail of vessels, whom we soon discovered to be enemies, one being a ship, with four brigs and a schooner. The schooner showed sixteen guns, one of the brigs sixteen guns, and another six guns. These six vessels drew up close together, apparently with an intention of engaging us. On consulting with my ship's company, we determined to bear down and attack them; but so soon as the enemy perceived our intention, they, by signal from the schooner, dispersed, each taking a different course, before we got within gun-shot of them. After a few hours' chase, we took possession of the ship and one of the brigs. The ship proved an American, bound from the South Seas, laden with oil, and the brig an American, laden with wine, from Madeira. From them we learned, that they had been captured some short time before by a French privateer, which was the schooner in company; that she mounted sixteen guns, two of which were nine pounders, and the rest sixes, and carried 155 men; and that the other three were American vessels which she had taken, one of which was from the East Indies. Night coming on, we were prevented from taking any more of them. On the 10th of September, being cruising near to Cape Blanco, on the Spanish main, we chased a Spanish schooner on shore, and destroyed her. Being close in with the land, and becalmed, we discovered a schooner and three gun-boats under Spanish colours making for us. A light breeze springing up, we were enabled to get clear of the land, when it fell calm, which enabled the schooner and gun-boats, by the help of a number of oars, to gain fast upon us, keeping up, at the same time, a constant fire from their bow guns, which we returned with two guns pointed from our stern; one of the gun-boats did not advance to attack us. As the enemy drew near, we engaged them with musquets and pistols, keeping with oars the stern of the Rover towards them, and having all our guns well loaded with great and small shot, ready against we should come to close quarter; when we heard the commander of the schooner give orders to the two gun-boats to board us. I waited to see how they meant to attack us, and finding the schooner intended to board us on our starboard quarter, one of the gun-boats on our larboard bow, and the other on our larboard waist, I suffered them to advance in that position until they came within about fifteen yards, still firing on them with small arms and the stern guns. I then manned the oars on the larboard side, and pulled the Rover round so as to bring her starboard broadside to bear athwart the schooner's bow, and poured into her a whole broadside of great and small shot, which raked her deck fore and aft, while it was full of men ready for boarding. Instantly shifted over on the other side and raked both gun-boats in the same manner, which must have killed and wounded

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Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 176.

a great number of those on board them, and done great damage to their boats. I then commenced a close action with the schooner, which lasted three glasses, and having disabled her sails and rigging much, and finding her fire grew slack, I took advantage of a light air of wind to back my head sails, which brought my stern on board of the schooner, by which we were enabled to board her and carry her, at which time the gun-boats sheered off, apparently in a very shattered condition. We found her to be the Santa Ritta, mounting ten six pounders and two twelve pound carronades, with 125 men. She was fitted out the day before, by the governor of Porto Cavallo, with the gun-boats, for the express purpose of taking us. Every officer on board her was killed, except the officers who commanded a party of twenty-five soldiers. There were fourteen men dead on her deck when we boarded her, and seventeen wounded: the prisoners, including the wounded, amounted to seventy-one. My ship's company, including officers and boys, was only forty-five in number, and behaved with that courage and spirit which British seamen always show when fighting the enemies of their country. It is with infinite pleasure I add, that I had not a man hurt. From the best account I could obtain, the enemy lost fifty-four men. The prisoners being too numerous to be kept on board, on the 14th ult. I landed them all except eight, taking an obligation from them not to serve against his Majesty until regularly exchanged. I arrived with my ship's company in safety this day at Liverpool, having taken, during my cruise, the before-mentioned vessels, together with a sloop under American colours bound to Curaçoa, a Spanish schooner bound to Porto Cavallo, which have all arrived in this province, besides which, I destroyed some Spanish launches on the coast."

Another attempt was made by the Methodists to establish themselves in Barbadoes, but towards the close of the year it was given up.

The Methodists in Dominica increased in numbers, and bought a piece of land, upon which they began to erect a new chapel.

The number of Methodists in the Bahamas was eighty.

The number of Methodists in society in St. Vincent's amounted to about 2000, and many others were under instruction. The utility of the missionaries became visible in the eyes of the planters; and "in many cases," Dr. Coke says, "interest supplied the place of better motives."

At Nevis, the annual increase of Methodists was more than usual.

In May, the number of Methodists in society in the Bermudas was seventy-four Whites and thirty Blacks. On the 24th of May,

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 156. 358.; vol. iii. pp. 205. 240.

the colonial legislature passed "an act to prevent persons pretending or having pretended to be ministers of the gospel, or missionaries, from any religious society whatever, and not invested with holy orders according to the rites and ceremonies of the church of England and Scotland, from acting as preachers or schoolmasters." In this it was enacted, "that no man is to preach, exhort, lecture, write, or speak, or in anywise propagate any doctrine to any collected audience, public or private, who is not ordained according to the rites and ceremonies of the church of England or Scotland," under a penalty of £50 and six months' imprisonment, for every offence.

Mr. Stephenson, the Methodist missionary, considered this law as unjust, and therefore thought proper not to obey it. He continued to preach as usual until the 23d of June, when he was found guilty of breaking the law, and committed to prison to take his trial in December. He procured bail and was liberated, and got 500 signatures to a petition to his Majesty to negative the law: but, before an answer could arrive, Mr. Stephenson's trial came on; he was found guilty of breaking the law, sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and fined £50. The governor, however, offered to liberate him, upon condition of his quitting the island within sixty days. Mr. Stephenson says, "but as I thought this dishonourable to the cause for which I suffered, I declined to accept the offered mercy. I have gained more friends by this persecution in Bermuda than I should ever have had without it."

Nearly three years elapsed before the law was repealed, and its repeal publicly announced.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2140 Whites, 4582 free people of colour, 15,810 slaves, 1149 Indians; total 22,850.

1801.

"His Majesty's sloop Bourdelois, Carlisle Bay,
Barbadoes, February 1.

"Sir,

"Three days ago, being on the station you ordered me to cruise for the protection of our scattered convoy, I acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that at noon three sails were descried to windward evidently, in chase of us, which I soon discovered to be an enemy's squadron, consisting of two large brigs and a schooner. Having shortened sail, enabled them to be well up with us at sunset, when I wore round to give them battle. At six, I had the honour of bringing the largest brig to close action at about ten yards distance, but was not so fortunate

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 246. Political Account of Trinidad, London, 1807.
Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 349.

with the other vessels who fought very shy on the occasion, on observing we were enabled to fight both sides at once. Thirty minutes of close carronade with my near opponent completely silenced him, when he hailed that he had struck, and lowered his topsails, when his companions made sail from us; but I think I can safely aver they are sufficiently damaged to spoil their cruise. My first lieutenant, Mr. Robert Barrie, on taking possession of the prize, found her to be a remarkable fine French national corvette, called La Curieuse, pierced for twenty guns, but only eighteen long nine pounders mounted, and 168 men, commanded by Captain G. Rodelet, sent out from Cayenne twenty-eight days ago, by Victor Hugues, with this squadron, to intercept the outward-bound West India fleet. With real concern, I acquaint you, that we had one man killed and seven wounded in the action; but from the abilities and attention of Mr. G. Roddam, my surgeon, I trust the latter are likely to do well. Lieutenant Barrie forms one of the number, but disdained to quit his quarters. Mr. J. Jones, master's mate, and Mr. J. Lions, midshipman, are included in this list. The killed and wounded in the corvette amounted to near fifty, her deck, fore and aft, being covered with the dying and the dead. The French captain survived but a few hours, having lost both his legs, and many of the prisoners were in an equal pitiable state. A melancholy and painful task is now imposed on me to relate the sad catastrophe attending this capture, which, after being more than an hour in our possession, was found to be rapidly sinking, in consequence of her innumerable shot holes. Every exertion was made to preserve her; but, alas! at eight, she foundered close beside us. I had, some time previous to this event, ordered every body to quit her; but British humanity, while striving to extricate the wounded Frenchmen from destruction, weighed so forcibly with Mr. Archibald Montgomery and twenty brave followers, that they persevered in this meritorious service until the vessel sunk under them. The floating wreck, I rejoice to say, buoyed up many from destruction; but with sorrow I mention, Mr. Frederick Spence and Mr. Auckland, two promising young gentlemen, with five of my gallant crew, unfortunately perished. The delay occasioned by this unhappy event, securing 120 prisoners, knotting the rigging and repairing sails, detained me until eleven before I could pursue the flying enemy, which, I assure you, was done with all alacrity, but without success, as the night favoured their escape. I cannot conclude this account of my proceeding, without informing you how highly I approve of the conduct of Lieutenant Robert Barrie, Lieutenant James Alexander Gordon, Mr. M'Cleverly, the master, and Mr. Montgomery, my acting lieutenant. The proceedings of warrant and petty officers gave me every satisfaction; and I have

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Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 349.

not words to offer sufficiently in the praise of the ship's company, for their steady obedience to my orders in not wasting a single shot. I trust it will not be deemed too assuming in my recommending my first lieutenant, Mr. Robert Barrie, to the notice of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, as an officer highly worthy of advancement.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" (Signed) T. MANBY.

" N.B. Allow me to subjoin the statement of the enemy's force, and to mention, that the only capture made by this squadron was the Susan brig of Halifax, bound to Surinam, which they burnt.

" La Curieuse, of 390 tons, eighteen nine pounders, 166 men; not two years old, with thirty-four feet beam, and ninety feet keel, commanded by Captain George Rodelet.

" La Mutine, of 300 tons, sixteen long six pounders, 156 men, commanded by Captain J. Raybaun.

" L'Esperance schooner, mounting six four pounders, fifty-two men, commanded by Captain Haymond.

" J. T. DUCKWORTH."

When the Bourdelois was off Porto Rico, a Spaniard came on board for protection, having murdered his officer. Captain Manby landed him in Aquadilla Bay, with the following letter to the governor.

" SIR,

" The British colours disdain to protect a murderer. I send you one, and hope he will meet the fate he merits.

" I am, Sir,

" THOMAS MANBY."

The governor returned an answer, expressing his admiration and thanks, and sent a large supply of fruit and vegetables to the Bourdelois.

Copy of a Letter from Rear-Admiral Duckworth, commander-in-chief of his Majesty's ships and vessels at the Leeward Islands, to Evan Nepean, Esq., dated Fort Royal, 9th of February.

" SIR,

" Captain Matson, of the Daphne, informs me, by letter of the 22d ult., that on the 16th, observing some coasters near the shore, under convoy of a schooner, he detached Lieutenant M'Kenzie,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 526.; vol. vi. p. 281.

with the boats of the Cyane, under Lieutenant Peachy; but, on their approaching, all succeeded in getting under the cover of the batteries at Basse Terre, one excepted, which anchored near Vieux Fort; this in the course of the night Lieutenant M'Kenzie boarded, and brought off under a heavy cannonade. The next morning, they observed, from the Saints, the above-mentioned schooner work up in shore, and anchor at Trois Rivières, covered by a battery, and flanked by two others. Notwithstanding these difficulties, Lieutenant M'Kenzie, with Lieutenant Peachy, volunteered to bring her out, which Captain Matson was at last prevailed on to accord to; but, from want of wind, this gallant intention was not attempted until after sunrise on the 18th, when M'Kenzie, in a manner which exceeds all praise, ran the schooner on board, though a superior enemy, and evidently prepared for him, when Lieutenants Peachy and M'Kenzie entered with thirty men, and, after a contest of a quarter an hour, succeeded in bringing her off under a most tremendous fire from the batteries, she being moored so close to the shore as to have a stern hawser fast on the beach. In this contest, the French captain, his first and second lieutenant, and six men, were wounded, besides one killed and two drowned. In the Garland tender, one seaman and one marine killed; the serjeant of marines and two seamen wounded. Though I was not an observer of this exploit, which appears to me among the first traits of gallantry in the course of the war, their lordships will be able to appreciate the value of Lieutenant M'Kenzie's conduct, which I must further add is, in its probable consequences, of the greatest moment to the trade of our islands, as L'Eclair sails rapidly, and, when fully armed, will carry twelve six pounders, besides twenty-one and a half pounder, brass guns, mounted as swivels. She was in her way to Point Petre to complete, having left Rochfort armed only with four brass four pounders, the twenty small guns, and fifty men.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" J. T. Duckworth."

From a return made to an order of the House of Commons, May 5th, 1806, it appears, that the British sugar colonies in 1801 exported 2,959,958 cwt. of sugar, 8,148,571 gallons of rum, 199,359 cwt. of coffee, and 11,261,014 lbs. of cotton.

An unsuccessful attempt to cut out a convoy of Spanish vessels from Levita Bay in Cuba was made in April by the boats of his Majesty's ships Cleopatra and Andromache. They got into the bay about midnight, and found the enemy prepared to receive them. Several were boarded, but only one galley brought out. Lieutenant

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Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 29, 30. 32, 33.

Taylor, and two midshipmen and seven seamen, were killed, and seventeen were wounded. The boats were nearly destroyed.[1]

Upon the 18th of August, Captain S. Butcher, in the Guachapin brig, captured El Teresa, a Spanish ship of war, of eighteen guns and 120 men, between Martinico and St. Lucia, after an action of an hour and a half.

Admiral Duckworth, in his dispatch, says, "too great praise cannot be given to Captain Butcher, his officers and crew; and Captain Butcher mentions Lieutenant Marshall in the strongest terms. The Guachapin was a small trumpery brig, and Captain Bland in the Heureux, who got up just as El Teresa struck, calls it 'an unequal contest.'"[2]

Vice-Admiral Lord H. Seymour, commander-in-chief, died at sea, upon the Jamaica station, on board the Tisiphone, on the 11th of September, in the 46th year of his age.

An act passed this year in St. Vincent, makes "the severe, wanton, and malicious wounding, bruising, cutting, maiming, disabling, or dismembering a slave, by any person or persons whomsoever, an indictable misdemeanor; any law to the contrary thereof notwithstanding."

By the Barbadoes act of this year, the tax on manumission was £200 a head for the males, and £300 for the females. As free females alone can give native additions to the free coloured class, the object of the assembly is clearly to prevent the increase of that class.

On May the 16th, Brigadier-General George Prevost was appointed lieutenant-governor of St. Lucia.

Major-General George Nugent was appointed to succeed the Earl of Balcarres as lieutenant-governor of Jamaica.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Naval Chronicle, vol. v. p. 455.; vol. vi. pp. 322. 435.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 150. 400. Annual Register, 1801. p. 106.

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[1] La Babet, of 20 guns, Captain F. J. Mainwaring, was supposed to have foundered in the West Indies, and lost with all her crew.

La Legere, 24 guns, Captain F. C. Quinton, was wrecked near Carthagena, on the Spanish Main; crew made prisoners.

The Meleager of 32 guns, Captain the Honourable T. B. Capel, was wrecked on the Triangles, June the 9th; the crew were saved.

The Lowestoffe, 32 guns, Captain R. Plampin, was lost on the N. E. end of Inagua Grande, in the night of August the 11th; crew saved.

The Proselyte, 32 guns, Captain G. Fowke, was wrecked on a sunken rock off the island of St. Martin's, September the 4th.

The Bonetta, 18 guns, Captain T. New, was lost on the Jardines, on the south side of Cuba, October the 25th; the crew were saved.

A disastrous year for the British squadron in the West Indies.

Steele's Naval Chronologist.

[2] Captain L. C. Bland, in his Majesty's ship Heureux, captured, on the 28th of May, to windward of Barbadoes, after a chase of sixteen hours, the French national schooner L'Egypt, of sixteen guns and 103 men: she was from Guadaloupe. *Naval Chronicle*, vol. vi. p. 148.

On May the 26th, Arthur Whetham, Esq. was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of Curaçoa, and Thomas Picton, Esq. to be governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Trinidad.

On December the 5th, John Halkett, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Bahama islands.

The chapel which the Methodists had built at New Providence, Dr. Coke says, "was held in possession by a theological usurper, who could only be dispossessed through the medium of the law, and not touched without a danger of contamination." Under these circumstances they thought it advisable to erect a new one, which they did in the eastern district of the island, and which was ready for preaching in before Christmas. "As it was not convenient for Mr. Turton (the missionary) to take up his abode in this place, he placed in it a *serious* white woman," to pray occasionally with those who might assemble in the intervals between preaching.

The Methodists had nearly 100 members in society upon the island.

Upon the 1st of July, the new constitution was proclaimed at Cape François in St. Domingo. Toussaint Louverture appeared at the head of the ceremony, and the code was promulgated in the name of the people.

Two thousand Spaniards fled from St. Domingo to Maracaibo, from the government of Toussaint.

Upon the 26th of January, Toussaint, with 4000 men, arrived under the walls of the city of Santo Domingo, without having met with any resistance, except from some troops near Nisao. He had previously demanded the cession of the Spanish possessions in the island of Española, in conformity with the treaty of Basle, which being refused, he marched to the capital, when the president, Don Joachin Garcia, delivered up the keys. Toussaint said, that he did not come there as an enemy, but as an ally and friend of the Spanish government, to claim the execution of a solemn treaty. He soon afterwards ordered several new roads to be made, and laid the foundation of some towns near the principal anchorages to the eastward. In the royal treasury he found 298,000 ("gourdes") dollars?

From a return made to the House of Commons, May the 6th, 1806, it appears that Great Britain imported from the British West Indies this year 185,828 cwt. of coffee, and 223,150 hhds. of sugar, of which 121,368 cwt. of coffee, and 143,200 hhds. of sugar came from Jamaica.

The produce of St. Vincent's was 17,908 heavy hogsheads of sugar.

Annual Register, 1801, p. 112.—1805, p. 98. Rainsford's Account of Hayti.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 205, 206.
Depon's South America, vol. ii. p. 278.
Précis Historique des dernier Evenements de St. Domingue. Gil. Guiltermin, p. 6.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 16. 23.

The armed force at the Isle of Margarita, consisted of

	Men.
One company of troops of the line - -	77
Artillery, four companies of people of colour	400
Militia.	
Four companies of Whites - - -	360
One company of cavalry - - - -	50
Four companies of infantry, people of colour	360
Total	1,247

On the 13th of September, Captain J. Johnstone, of his Majesty's sloop Lark, sent two boats, with sixteen men in each, under the command of Lieutenant Pasley and Mr. M'Cloud, to cut out a Spanish privateer schooner from the Portillo Recess, in Cuba, the boats found her at half-past P.M. prepared to defend herself; she was, however, boarded and carried, after a severe struggle, in which she had twenty-one men killed and six wounded. The captain and all her officers were killed. The English had one man killed and twelve wounded. The privateer was named L'Esperance, and had forty-five men on board when the action began.

Upon the 16th of April, the French garrison evacuated the island of St. Eustatia, carrying with them as much plunder as their vessels could stow. Upon receiving this information, the president of St. Christopher's, Mr. R. Thompson, on the 20th of April, sent an order to Lieutenant-Colonel Blunt of the 3d foot, to embark with 100 of the buffs in his Majesty's sloop Arab, Captain Perkins, and to take possession of that island. In consequence of this order, Colonel Blunt embarked with 100 of the buffs, with Lieutenant Brown and ten artillery men. On the morning of the 21st the island was summoned, and surrendered by capitulation, in which it was stipulated that the persons, properties, religion, and usages of the inhabitants should be respected and protected, till his Majesty's pleasure was known. The island was to enjoy the same privileges as the British colonies in the West Indies, and commerce to be on the same footing as the other conquered islands. Upon the 22d of April, Daniel Roda, the late governor of Eustatia, signed an order to Mr. Thomas Dezey, the vice-commander of Saba, to deliver up that island to the English, as it was included in the capitulation of St. Eustatia.

A Methodist missionary landed at Barbadoes, and succeeded in collecting "several of those who had wandered from the fold." Lord Seaforth, the governor, promised him his protection.

At Nevis "the whole (Methodist) society, in the month of May

Depon's South America, vol. i. p. 317.
Annual Register, 1801, p. 48. Dispatches.—1802, p. 8.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 156.; vol. iii. p. 24.

in this year, amounted to 833 members; and many more gave evident proofs that the means of grace had been spirit and life to their souls."

The number of slaves, in Jamaica, were reported to be 307,094: imported 11,309, exported 270.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2153 Whites, 4909 free people of colour, 15,975 slaves, 1202 Indians; total, 24,239.

Privateering seems to have been nearly given up in the West Indies; only one French and one Spanish privateer are said to have been taken this year in those seas.

The population of the island of Margarita was estimated at 14,000. The Whites were computed at two-tenths, the slaves at three, the descendants of freedmen at four, and the Indians the remainder; but these proportions apply to the whole population of the province of Venezuela, to the governments of Maracaibo and Guiana, and to the Isle of Margarita, added together.

A royal order (Spanish) of the 3d of August, 1801, entitled "Tarif of Graces," says, art. 55. "for the permissions which are granted to foreigners to pass into the Indies, the tax shall be fixed by the chamber (of Indies) according to the importance of the object and circumstances." The following article taxes the permission of residing in the Indies at 8200 reals of vellon, which are equal to 400 milled dollars; and art. 57 fixes the same sum, the tax for the naturalization of those who have the requisite qualifications, of which the principal one is to be a Catholic."

The number of members in the Methodist society in Jamaica amounted nearly to 600. "The societies might probably be multiplied by six, to give the amount of all the regular congregations. There were also nine local preachers, either Blacks or people of colour; admirably adapted for the work," Dr. Coke says.

Rear-Admiral Duckworth's Dispatches.

"Sir, "Leviathan, at Sea, March 27th, 1801.

"Having consulted with Lieutenant-General Trigg on the subject of the orders of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, we determined not to wait for the expected reinforcements, but collect the troops that the general thought might be employed with dispatch, and we sailed on the 16th with about 1500 troops, for the purpose of attacking the various islands specified in our orders, the general and myself considering it most judicious to commence with the weathermost one, St. Bartholomew, though by calms and very variable winds we were prevented from getting to Grand Saline Bay (our intended place of landing) till the morning of the 20th;

Appendix to the Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves.
Political Account of Trinidad, London, 1807. Steele's Naval Chronologist.
Depon's South America, vol. i. pp. 106. 110.
Coke's West Indies, vol. i, p. 442. Annual Register, 1801, p. 38.

when having prepared every thing for that purpose, and placed the Andromeda, L'Unité, and Drake brig, to cover it, the general and myself deemed it expedient to prevent delay, by sending Brigadier-General King, and Captain Fuller of the Leviathan, with a summons, which, after some little hesitation, was accepted, and the capitulation I transmit entered into. I then detached the Andromeda, with the Alexandria tender, to assist in watching St. Thomas's, when every exertion was used to land a garrison, and form such temporary arrangements as the urgency of the service would admit, all of which were effected by the morning of the 22d. We found here two Swedish ships, newly laden with the produce of the country, a Danish ship in ballast, besides a variety of small craft, Swedish, and three small French vessels; and I left Captain Thomas Harvey, in L'Unité, to co-operate with the commandant of that island, and at ten o'clock A.M. were in the act of weighing, when ten sail were seen from the mast head; I therefore ordered the Drake brig and L'Eclair schooner to reconnoitre, keeping the wind myself, concluding that they were our troops from England, which the general and myself had sent orders to Barbadoes to follow us, after landing their sick, with women and children. This, from light airs, was not ascertained till ten o'clock at night, when they proved as conjectured; and the Proselyte joined in the afternoon of the 24th. Upon this accumulation of force, the general and myself, after some deliberation, judged it would be highly injurious to his Majesty's service, and render St. Bartholomew very unsafe, if we omitted attacking the island of St. Martin; we therefore (although it was not mentioned in our instructions), prompted by the rectitude of our intentions, decided upon endeavouring to reduce it, and, at midnight of the 22d, bore away for that purpose; but the unprecedented variableness of the winds prevented our getting there till daylight of the 24th; and on the afternoon of the 23d, the Coromandel joined with the 2d West India regiment, when having placed Captain Fowke, in the Proselyte, with the Drake brig, in Cole's Bay, to cover the landing under the direction of Captain Ekins, of the Amphitrite, who had been sick at Barbadoes, but joined me in the Proselyte, and handsomely volunteered this service, which commenced at half past eight o'clock; and with his judicious arrangements, the second brigade of near 1500 men, under Brigadier-General Maitland, were on shore with their field pieces and 100 seamen, by eleven o'clock, as were the first brigade of 1800, under Brigadier-General Fuller, by two o'clock, with their field-pieces, and 100 seamen. The second brigade directly proceeded on to take the heights in the approach to the town of Phillipsburgh, which was quickly effected, though not without some smart skirmishing, which afterwards brought on a short action, in which some companies of the 64th, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pakenham,

Annual Register, 1801, p. 38.

and two companies of the 8th West India regiment, displayed great gallantry, beat the enemy, and took two field-pieces. At this time Brigadier-General Fuller, with the first brigade, marched on to take the heights above Fort Chesterfield, or Maregot, where he had reason to expect the greatest resistance; but the former check (in which the enemy lost from fifty to sixty killed and wounded) evinced that opposition could only lead to destruction; and they embraced a verbal summons, sent in by Brigadier-General Maitland, at five o'clock, to propose their terms at nine; when Lieutenant-General Trigg and self being on the spot, the capitulation was signed and exchanged by midnight of the 24th, of which I transmit a copy for their lordships' information.

At the commencement of the attack, we observed in Great Bay two privateer brigs of twelve guns each, and a schooner of the same force, with a merchant-ship brig, and nine or ten small craft; and as I considered them likely to attempt getting off in the course of the night, I ordered the Hornet, and Fanny, armed brig, to work up to Great Bay, to prevent such attempt from succeeding; and at sunset the Drake to assist on that service; but unfortunately, the two first did not get far enough to windward to fulfil my intention, by which means one of the brigs and the schooner got out, with a few small vessels, five of which were taken; but I am to lament the brig and schooner getting away after a chase of twenty-four hours, by the Hornet and Fanny. We found remaining in the bay one brig privateer of twelve guns, an English captured ship, a merchant brig, four small schooners and a sloop, the particulars of which my time would not allow me to collect, as I began to embark the troops, ordnance, &c. the next morning, the 25th, and sailed for St. Thomas's the afternoon of the 26th, leaving the Proselyte, Hornet, and Drake, to assist in the arrangements necessary for the security of the island, and two transports to embark the garrison in, which consisted of between 300 and 400, besides nearly a similar number which got away in the brig, &c. I have ordered the Proselyte to relieve L'Unité, keeping with her the Drake, for the assisting protection of the two islands, and L'Unité to conduct the prisoners to Martinico, arranging and getting ready to convoy the trade home.

I cannot conclude this account of our successful proceedings for their lordships' information, without paying that grateful tribute which is due to Lieutenant-General Trigg, for his kind support and concurrence in every instance, and for his anxious endeavours to preserve that particular harmony and unanimity between the army and navy, which must always contribute to the success of every undertaking. I should not do justice to the officers and men serving under my command, if I was to omit assuring their lordships they have performed the harassing and laborious service

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Annual Register, 1801. p 38.

they have been employed in, highly to my satisfaction, and with an alacrity characteristic of British seamen.

"J. T. DUCKWORTH."[1]

"SIR, "Leviathan, St. Thomas's, March 30th.

"Having had the honour of stating to you the successful proceedings of this armament to the 27th, I have now further to add, that we arrived off this island at daylight of the 28th, having previously concerted with the general the arrangement for landing at Black Point Bay, about three miles to the westward of the town; but from the wind blowing off the land, we were not able to obtain anchorage till noon, when I directed Captain Bradby in the Andromeda, with the Alexandria tender, to place themselves as close to the beach as the water would admit, to cover the landing; which service was ably executed. I also ordered the Southampton, Diana, and Amphitrite, (which had been previously directed here to prevent succour from being thrown in,) to anchor close off the town, to be in readiness to attack the forts if requisite. This service performed, and the troops all ready to land, Lieutenant-General Trigg and self were of opinion it would promote his Majesty's service to summon the island, which was sent by Brigadier-General Maitland, and Captain King of the Leviathan, when a capitulation was agreed on for this island, St. John's, and its dependencies, with the delay only of the governor being permitted to send officers to ascertain that our force was as formidable as represented; and yesterday morning we took possession of the forts, &c.; since when I have been so constantly employed in landing a garrison, and forming temporary regulations to move for our next object, Santa Cruz, this evening, that my time will not admit of my giving their lordships an exact detail of the vessels in harbour, but there was one man-of-war brig of eighteen guns, which appears a very fine vessel, and fit for his Majesty's service.

"J. T. DUCKWORTH."

"SIR, "Leviathan, off Christianstadt, April 2d.

"I have now the further pleasure to acquaint you, that we were off the town of Christianstadt at daylight of the 31st, and having

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Annual Register, 1801, p. 40. Admiral Duckworth's Dispatches.

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[1] *List of Rear-Admiral Duckworth's squadron at the capture of St. Bartholomew, on the 16th of March.*

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Leviathan	74	Rear-Admiral Duckworth, Captain E. D. King.
Diana	38	——— J. P. Beresford.
Unité	38	——— Thos. Harvey.
Southampton	32	——— John Harvey.
Andromeda	32	——— James Bradby.
Amphitrite	28	——— Chas. Ekins.
Hornet	16	——— J. Nash.
Drake (brig)	16	——— Geo. Younghusband.

Eclair, Fanny and Alexandria, small crafts.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xviii. p. 15.

formed the arrangements for landing, and sounded to the eastward of the town, to ascertain that it could be safely effected, Lieutenant-General Trigg and myself thought proper to send a summons similar to that of St. Bartholomew, upon which confidential officers were sent off by the governor, General Lindeman; and the accompanying capitulation entered into, the whole of which I hope will meet with his Majesty's and their lordships' approbation; and as I consider an expeditious account thereof, under the present circumstances with the northern powers, may be very desirable, I dispatch the Fanny, hired armed brig, and must defer giving any detail of the vessels in the ports, as I have not yet been able to get any exact list. Captain Ekins, of the Amphitrite, having been much reduced from a fever, and by his exertions again brought on violently his complaint, I have thought it humanity to entrust that valuable officer with my despatches, and beg leave to refer their lordships to him for any further particulars. I intend giving an acting order to Captain John Miller Garnier, of the Hawke, and my first lieutenant, G. W. Blaney, an officer whose exertions in the present expedition entitle him to my warmest support. I should feel very remiss was I to close this without mentioning to their lordships the aid I have received from my captain, E. D. King, in this harassing service.

"J. T. DUCKWORTH."

Upon the 1st of October, preliminary articles of peace between His Britannic Majesty and the French republic were signed in London by Lord Hawkesbury and M. Otto.

The following articles relate to the West Indies:

"Art. 2. His Britannic Majesty shall restore to the French republic and her allies, namely, to His Catholic Majesty, and to the Batavian republic, all the possessions and colonies occupied or conquered by the English forces in the course of the present war, with the exception of the island of Trinidad and the Dutch possessions in the island of Ceylon, of which island and possessions His Britannic Majesty reserves to himself the full and entire sovereignty.

"Art. 9. The evacuations, cessions, and restitutions stipulated for by the present preliminary articles, shall take place in the continent and seas of America and Africa within three months."

By art. 11. two months are allowed, to be computed from the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty, for the capture of vessels and effects between the limits of the Canary Islands to the equator.

"Art. 12. All sequestrations imposed by either of the parties on the funded property, revenues, or debts of any description, belonging to either of the contracting powers, or to their subjects or citizens, shall be taken off immediately after the signature of the

Steele's Chronologist.

definitive treaty. The decision of all claims brought forward by individuals of the one country against individuals of the other, for private rights, debts, property, or effects whatsoever, which, according to received usages and the law of nations, ought to revive at the period of peace, shall be heard and decided before the competent tribunals, and in all cases prompt and ample justice shall be administered in the countries where the claims are made. It is agreed, moreover, that this article, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty, shall apply to the allies of the contracting parties, and to the individuals of the respective nations, upon the condition of a just reciprocity.

" Art. 14. In all cases of restitution agreed upon by the present treaty, the fortifications shall be delivered up in the state in which they may be at the time of the signature of the present treaty, and all works which shall have been constructed since the occupation shall remain untouched. It is further agreed, that in all cases of cession stipulated in the present treaty, there shall be allowed to the inhabitants, of whatever condition or nation they may be, a term of three years, to be computed from the notification of the definitive treaty of peace, for the purpose of disposing of their properties, acquired and possessed either before or during the present war, in the which term of three years they may have free exercise of their religion and enjoyment of their property. The same privilege shall be granted in the countries restored or ceded. It is agreed that none of them shall be prosecuted, disturbed, or molested in their persons or properties, under any pretext, on account of their conduct or political opinions, or of their attachment to either of the two powers, nor on any other account, except that of debts contracted to individuals, or on account of acts posterior to the definitive treaty."

At Guadaloupe, October the 21st, the Blacks and people of colour, headed by Pelagie, revolted, and established a provisional government. They seized Admiral Lacrosse, the governor, as he was visiting the out-posts, and forced him on board a Danish vessel then in the roads. This vessel was stopped by His Britannic Majesty's ship Tamer, Captain Western, who carried the French governor to Dominica, where the British governor had just received the intelligence of the signing of the preliminaries of peace. At Dominica, Lacrosse issued the following proclamation :

" Manifesto of the magistrates nominated by the first consul of the French republic, to establish and constitute the government of Guadaloupe and its dependencies, dated December the 3d, 1801.

" A month has elapsed since a few factious men, enemies to all social order, have found the means to usurp the government in the

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Annual Register, 1802, p. 377. Manifesto, pp. 174. 179.

island of Guadaloupe. To succeed in their plan, they have calumniated the legal authority of the captain-general, Rear-Admiral Lacrosse, who was then solely and provisionally charged by the first consul, Bonaparte, with the civil and military powers; they have seduced and led astray the armed forces, incarcerated the officers who remained faithful to the mother country, and, finally, they have audaciously dared to lay criminal hands on the captain-general, and banish him from his government, after having detained him several days a prisoner. The captain-general having been put on board a Danish vessel, with imperative instructions to land him at Copenhagen, was fortunately met by His Britannic Majesty's frigate the Tamer, Captain Western commander; his claimed protection was granted, and he found an asylum at the government house, at Dominica.

"At this juncture the news of a general peace arrived in these islands, with the official account of the preliminary articles having been concluded, ratified, and exchanged between France and England. It was supposed that the communication of this intelligence, by demonstrating to the rebels the speedy punishment awaiting their misdemeanours, would be sufficient to recal them to their duty, but it was in vain. A British flag of truce went to Guadaloupe the 13th of November, 1801, and notified to them, the 14th, the official account of peace, to which no credit was given, and the officer of the flag insulted. It was necessary for them to act in this manner, to be enabled to fit out privateers, and to allow those actually cruising to continue their depredations, and receive their prizes. The legal magistrates have now in their possession a commission of letter of marque, dated the 15th November, (the day after the notification of peace was communicated by the flag of truce.) Information has been received, that they have authorised the capture of several vessels belonging to the subjects of His Britannic Majesty, which have been carried into the ports of Guadaloupe, a conduct absolutely piratical.

"The first consul having given directions to dispatch from Brest the Pensée frigate, Captain Valteau, with the official account of peace, sent out likewise the colonial prefect and the commissary of justice, in order to form and complete, in concert with the captain-general, the government of Guadaloupe and its dependencies. On their making the land of Deseada, they were informed of the rebellious state of Guadaloupe; and on the 24th of November, they joined the captain-general in the town of Roseau of His Britannic Majesty's island of Dominica, with the permission of his excellency the Honourable Andrew Cochrane Johnstone.

"In consequence of which, and of the two annexed papers, one being an act of the government of the French republic, regulating and

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Annual Register, Manifesto, p. 174.

constituting the different authorities, military, civil and judiciary, for the island of Guadaloupe and its dependencies; and the other the address of the three magistrates composing the government to the citizens of that island.

"The three aforesaid magistrates, composing solely the legal government of that colony, are earnestly prompted to fulfil an essential duty, by denouncing to all nations, friends and allies of the French republic, the state of rebellion of Guadaloupe against the mother country, caused by some subaltern factious individuals, and others without any title, who have usurped the reins of government, and all civil and military authority; in consequence of which, they hereby declare, that no act of the rebellious usurpers will be approved of, or have any effect; that the privateers of Guadaloupe, continuing to cruise after the official account of peace, or attempting to make prizes, will be looked upon as pirates, and treated accordingly, with all the severity pointed out by law.

"They request the different governments of their allies, the governors, and commanders of their fleets and ships of war, to prevent the exportation of arms, gunpowder, ammunition, or provision of any kind for the use of the rebels, the importation of which into Guadaloupe will be prohibited under the severest penalties.

"They declare and announce, that no naval expedition or commercial clearance from the said island or its dependencies can be legal without the captain-general's signature, for ships of war or armed vessels, and that of the colonial prefect, for merchant-men and other vessels of that description; and they, in consequence, request all those who are authorized to act in the different parts where such vessels from Guadaloupe and its dependencies should anchor, without the proper papers heretofore mentioned, to seize and sequestrate them and their respective cargoes, arrest their crews and passengers, and likewise all passengers leaving Guadaloupe in neutral bottoms, without the captain-general's passport. The aforesaid seizures and individuals to be at the disposal of the magistrates composing the government of Guadaloupe, or of the commissaries for the commercial intercourse of the French republic, wherever such establishments exist. They declare that the Saints is the place fixed upon for vessels intended for Guadaloupe; that it has been granted for that purpose by the British government, until further orders; and that means will be there found to communicate with the legal government of the said island, and assistance, if required, obtained.

"The aforesaid dispositions will take place provisionally, until the French government sends out to these islands sufficient means to put a stop to plunder and rebellion, and re-establish order; which,

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Annual Register, Manifesto, p. 175.

when it takes place, will be published in the same manner, being of essential importance for the tranquillity of all governments.

"Given at Roseau, in His Britannic Majesty's island of Dominica, the 3d day of December.

(Signed) "Lacrosse, Captain-General.
"Lescallier, Colonial-Prefect.
"Coster, Commissioner of Justice."

1802.

Upon the 2d of January, Toussaint returned to the city of St. Domingo; in consequence of the arrival of the French in that island, he obliged all his generals to renew their oaths of fidelity, and ordered the stationary Spanish regiment to march to oppose the French, by whom Toussaint is accused of having the whole of this regiment, 500 men, massacred by his guard of honour, near the Croix des Bouquets.

Admiral Villaret's Report.

"Citizen Minister,
On board the Ocean, in the Road of Cape François, February 10th, 1802.

"I hasten to give you an account of the operations of the fleet of the republic, since its departure from Brest to the present day; and I request you will submit this letter to the first consul. You know that winds directly adverse detained the squadron till the 14th of December. On the morning of the 17th, I rallied, close by Belle-Isle, the division from L'Orient, and not perceiving, at this rendezvous, the division from Rochefort, I stretched as far as Isle Dieu, in hopes of finding it. I thus literally fulfilled your instructions; and as the weather did not permit me to prolong this dangerous cruise, I made sail for Cape Finisterre. Violent winds and extremely rough sea, and continual fogs, separated, during this passage, several ships of the squadron, and damaged considerably several vessels.

"On the 5th Nivose, the Neptune, commanded by General Gravina, left the squadron to be repaired at Ferrol.

"On the 28th of December, I was obliged to permit the ship Duquesne, to put in at the first port, and to order the Cornelia to accompany her. (These two vessels have not yet rejoined us, although I expressly ordered the frigate not to delay more than twenty-four hours in the port where she might anchor.)

"I entertained a feeble hope of finding Rear-Admiral Latouche, at the Canary Islands. I have learnt, that this officer had steered

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Précis Historique des dernier Evenements de St. Domingue, p. 9.
Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 258.

there direct from Rocheford, and had waited there four days, in expectation of our fleet. I made the Isle of Palma on the 5th of January, without meeting any vessels; and I proceeded, without delay, to conduct the army to its destination.

"The contrary winds, which defeat alike our power and our prudence, did not, however, prevent the arrival of the army at Cape Samana, the 29th of January in the morning, forty-six days after its departure from Brest. On the same morning, I met again with Admiral Gravina, the squadron from Rochfort, and all the Spanish and French vessels which had parted from the fleet, with the exception of the Duquesne, the Cornelia, the Rhinocerous, and the two packets, which were obliged to anchor, the one at Corogne, and the other at St. Ander.

"On the 30th of January, the Syrene frigate, which I had dispatched to Guadaloupe, brought me the details of the events which had occurred in that colony. This intelligence, and some indirect information respecting the movements which have distracted all the Antilles, at the same epoch, inspired us with a just doubt of the reception which we were about to experience; we concluded we had not a moment to lose, to stifle or prevent a general conspiracy. Hence, General Leclerc requested me, on the same day, to dispatch, for St. Domingo, General Kerverseau, with his division; and the rest of the army continued its route.

"It was nevertheless still doubtful to the agents of government, whether they should discover at St. Domingo, in the character who for several years had possessed himself of the whole authority, a faithful Frenchman or a rebel African? Whether Toussaint Louverture had retained the colony for the mother country, or for its enemies? Whether he would second the generous designs of the first consul, and deserve a grand national recompence, or enkindle the flames of civil war, to glut an ambition as cruel as unbounded? You know better than any one, that government partook of our doubts, since we had orders to be equally prepared for war or peace.

"Our measures were concerted in conformity to these two suppositions, equally possible. When I had reached the heights of La Grange, and had provided myself with some skilful pilots, whom I sent for from Monte Christi, the fleet and troops were divided into three divisions. The first, under the orders of Rear-Admiral Latouche, was intended to disembark, at Port-au-Prince, a body of troops, the command of which the general-in-chief gave to General Boudet. The second was destined, under the orders of Captain Magen, to disembark, at the Bay of Mancenille, the division of General Rochambeau, and to second his attack on Fort Dauphin. I conducted the rest of the fleet, and the forces which General Leclerc had reserved to take possession of the Cape

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 258.

Town and the neighbouring quarters, the most important points in the colony.

"On the evening of the 2d of February, having finished all our dispositions, I made a signal for Rear-Admiral Latouche and Captain Magen to execute their orders; and on the morning of the 3d, I presented myself, with the rest of the armament, before the Cape.

"You are aware, citizen minister, that the entrance of the road, so difficult for vessels of every description, is not without danger to ships of the line of the same rate as the Ocean; that it is practicable only with the high wind which rises regularly about eleven in the morning, and blows during a great part of the night.

"On the same day, I ordered the Clorinda and Urania frigates, and the Aiguille cutter, to sail at the entrance of the road, to discover if there were any buoys out, and to reconnoitre the state of the fortifications. The frigates made fruitless private signals to the land; and the cutter having grounded in the passage, the Fort Piccolet fired on her with red-hot balls. Lieutenant Obet, the commander of this small vessel, did not desist from his object, and anchored in the road of the Cape, although the buoys were removed.

"On these circumstances, a Mulatto, named Langes, who exercised the functions of port captain at the Cape, came on board my vessel. So far from consenting to pilot the Ocean, he declared that the black general, Christophe, had ordered him to acquaint us, that the Whites would be massacred, and the town set on fire, the very instant the squadron should enter the Pass, if we refused to wait the return of a courier, whom he had dispatched to Governor Toussaint Louverture.

"We unanimously thought, that so ferocious a determination could only be suggested by unjust fears of the French government. The commander-in-chief wrote to Christophe, to make him acquainted with the benevolent purposes of the first consul, and to endeavour, by dissipating his apprehensions, to bring him to a sense of his duties as a soldier and a Frenchman. Lebrun, signal officer, adjutant to my etat-major, was entrusted with this delicate mission, as well as to carry to the Cape a great many copies of the first consul's proclamation. I detained the port-captain, and night compelled the squadron to sail largely.

"On the 4th, Citizen Lebrun brought back the answer of General Christophe; an absolute refusal to receive the army; an inflexible determination to burn the town and fields. Particular care was taken to prevent Lebrun from distributing the consular proclamation; and Christophe had formally declared, that he should receive and recognize no other orders than those of Toussaint.

"The cutter, Aiguille, having got out again without obstacle,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 258.

brought at the same time a deputation of the inhabitants of the Cape, composed of the mayor, the commandant of the national guard, the rector, and three notables. They came to implore the commander-in-chief not to avenge the affront offered to the government and the French flag. They assured us, that on the first signal of a disembarkation, the town and country of the Cape would be burnt, and all the Whites massacred; they confirmed the information we had received of the measures taken by the rebels, and their invariable resolution. The twenty-four hours required for Toussaint's answer had elapsed, and we had good reason for believing that he was in the town, or at least in the neighbourhood, the invisible soul and mover of all that had passed.

" The general-in-chief sent back the deputation, with orders to the mayor to read to his fellow citizens the proclamation of the first consul, and to explain to them the perfidious intentions of their chiefs. Cæsar Telemachus, a Negro, truly French, fulfilled that task with heroic intrepidity. From that moment we found that we must either renounce all hopes of saving the town, or suffer the laws and honour of the French government to be trampled under foot. In the evening of the 4th, the Syrene frigate came to announce the success of the debarkation in the Bay of Mancenille, and the entrance of the troops into Fort Dauphin. The general-in-chief took that part which he thought most favourable to humanity, and the sole object of the expedition. He thought that by landing all the troops in the bay of Acul, he might arrive at the heights of the cape before the Blacks should execute their designs; and that our ships, after the debarkation, by taking advantage of the first favourable breeze, might force the entrance in time to save some part of the town. I agreed to this idea, and ordered the troops to be immediately put on board the frigates, sloops, and boats. Captain Topsent, commander of the Furieuse, took them under his convoy, and steered by night towards Limbe. Unfortunately he was prevented by the calm from arriving there during the night.

" On the morning of the 5th, the division of frigates had not yet reached their destination, when an aid-de-camp of General Rochambeau brought me dispatches from the general-in-chief, and details from Captain Magen, of the expedition to Fort Dauphin. The Blacks had opposed the disembarkation in the Bay of Mancenille, exclaiming, 'No Whites! no French!' at the same time firing on our canoes. Captain Magen, however, effected his landing with equal activity and address; and while the troops were on their march to Fort Dauphin, he made his division prepare, with the same rapidity, to force the narrow and difficult passage leading to the harbour. The calm frustrated his zeal for some hours. General Rochambeau's troops had time to turn the forts of Laboque

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and Ance, where the Blacks obstinately defended themselves. At last Captain Magen was enabled to present himself before the fort, which received him with a discharge of artillery. Two rounds made him master of that post, where he found a considerable quantity of cannon and ammunition. Here all veils were removed from the designs of the rebels, by finding orders written by General Christophe to the commander of the place, ordering him to sink all the French vessels, to defend himself to the last extremity, and, if forced to retreat, to burn every thing behind him.

"The gallant conduct of Captain Magen, and the express request of the general-in-chief, calls upon you, for the encouragement of the service, to raise him to the rank of rear-admiral. His talents and services demand this distinction. I waited with extreme impatience till this disembarkation was effected on the 5th. I did not lose sight of the frigates under sail; and the alarm guns which were fired along all the coast, and the flames of some of the settlements, plainly discovered the designs of the rebels.

"As soon as I thought the disembarkation was effected, I ordered the ships Le Scipion and La Patriote to present themselves before the entrance, in order to draw the attention of the enemy. As soon as the Scipio came off Piccolet, the cannon began to play upon her and La Patriote with ball and bombs. I had ordered Langes, captain of the port, to moor the Scipio close by Piccolet, so as to demolish it; but night prevented General Delmotte from executing this order. The land wind began to blow at the approach of night, when the height of the Cape and the reflection of the sky announced the burning of the town, and we were obliged all night to behold the flames without having it in our power to render the wretched inhabitants any assistance. On break of day, the flames had not reached the plain.

"I called the captain of the port again on board the Ocean, and taking advantage of the first breeze, made for the harbour, ordering all the squadron to follow me. Forts Piccolet and St. Joseph had been abandoned; Forts Belair and St. Michel continued to fire on us; but the squadron gained the anchorage without firing a shot. I commanded La Patriote to fire on the rebels, while all the ship's companies disembarked; and General Humbert, with a body of two hundred men, marched to take possession of Fort Belair. By our united efforts, and the dexterous manœuvres of the general-in-chief, the plains are completely saved.

"General Rochambeau, on his side, advanced as far as Limonade, of which he took possession, as well as of Caracol, and of all the country situated between the Cape and Fort Dauphin.

"Thus we have only to regret the destruction of a great number of houses at the Cape: there have been but few massacres. The

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 258.

preservation of the country affords certain means of rebuilding them, and promises to commence a sufficient guarantee for the advances which it may make to the inhabitants.

" On the 7th of February, all the frigates employed in the disembarkation of Limbé, rejoined the fleet in the road, except the Furieuse, which I kept cruising before the harbour.

" Yesterday morning the Watigny, the Furieuse, and the Clorinda, set sail for Port-de-Paix. The plan of the general is to get possession of the fort of that town, and of the mole. Private intelligence leads us to hope that the latter will be surrendered to us. If this expedition be successful, as we have every reason to hope, the army will obtain many advantages and resources, of which it stands in the greatest need.

" My total want of light vessels has prevented me from giving sooner any news of the army; and it was not before this day I could dispatch the Syrene frigate, the captain of which I greatly regret, as he executed all the missions I have entrusted to him with a zeal, activity, and skill beyond all praise. May I entreat you to send him back to me with another frigate, and the reward due to his talents.

" I cannot conclude without expressing a testimony of the exalted praise of our allies, the Spaniards, to which they are in honour and truth entitled. Above all, Admiral Gravina, in all his intercourses with us, has shown a frankness, loyalty, and firmness, which characterize the perfect sailor. The astonishing celerity with which he repaired his ship, that singular activity in a moment so decisive, and his arrival at the rendezvous off Cape Samana the same day with the rest of the fleet, have excited universally a surprise, which is the finest eulogy of M. de Gravina. General Villavicencio, who, during his absence, commanded the Spanish division, displayed, during the passage, to the captains of the two squadrons, an excellent model of precision and vigilance in every branch of navigation.

" In the midst of the things which press upon me, I cannot send you an account of the state of the ammunition found at Fort Dauphin, the official papers, private correspondence, orders, &c. &c. You will receive them by the first vessel which I send. I have thought it proper not to lose a moment in acquainting the first consul with the state of the army, the events which have followed our arrival at St. Domingo, our regret, our hopes, and our unreserved attention to the interests of the republic and government.

" Receive in the meantime, citizen minister, the assurances of my respect.

" VILLARET."

Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 258.

Admiral Villaret Joyeuse, to M. L'Amiral commanding the forces of His Britannic Majesty at Jamaica. Dated on board L'Ocean, in the Road of Cape François, 26 Pluviose. (*February* 15*th.*)

" M. L'Amiral,

" I hasten to announce to you, that a fleet of the French republic has entered the ports of St. Domingo. The revolted Negroes have received us with fire and sword, and the city of the Cape has been reduced to ashes, but the plain and the neighbouring country have been saved by the activity of the troops, and the precipitate flight of the rebels. A powerful force will at last re-establish, in this colony, the form of government prescribed by the mother country, and protect those principles which alone can preserve, and upon which reposes the common interest of all the European powers in their establishments in the Antilles.

" The importance and utility of these views, added to the happy establishment of peace between France and England, give me full assurance, Sir, that the rebels will no where find an asylum; and that the colony being declared in a state of siege, no armed vessel will shew itself before these ports, which the rebels occupy. The obstinate resistance which they oppose to us in different points, in spite of their continued defeats, is evidently the result of a plan of general insurrection, confirmed by the events which have occurred at Guadaloupe; and by the intelligence received from Martinico, Tobago, Grenada, and Dominica, the consequence to all European colonies would be equally disastrous, if the focus of revolt was not speedily smothered; but the French army is already in possession of the Cape, Fort of Liberty, the Fort de Paix, La Tortue, and Port Republican, and is perfectly sure of all the part formerly belonging to Spain, of which the most important points have been conquered, and every thing promises us complete success, if, as this army is entitled to expect, it can find, in the event of necessity, that assistance from her neighbours, which unforeseen circumstances may force it to claim.

" The disposition of the cabinet of St. James's, and the known loyalty of your nation, Sir, permits me to hope, that the ports of Jamaica will furnish us (should circumstances demand it, and should you be abundantly provided) with provisions and ammunition. One of the ministers of His Britannic Majesty has said, that the peace just concluded was not an ordinary peace, but a sincere reconciliation of the two greatest nations in the world. If it depends on me, Sir, this happy prognostic will certainly be verified; at least, I am pleased to imagine, that our pacific communications will be worthy of two nations, to whom war has only multiplied the reciprocal reasons which they had to esteem each other; and to

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 266.

give you authentic proof of our confidence, I lay before you a faithful statement of our forces in the ports of St. Domingo.

" Since the 16th Pluviose (4th February) twenty-five sail of the line have entered these ports; five of them, which were Spanish, have already sailed for the Havaña. These twenty-five vessels, amongst which three were entirely transports, and consequently without guns, have brought, with several frigates armé-en-flute, about 16,000 men. I am every moment in expectation of six more sail of the line, three of them Batavian, intended to be sent to their own establishments. These divisions are also to bring 5000 or 6000 troops more; other corps are destined to follow them. I shall send almost immediately most of the flutes, with six or seven vessels, back to France.

" Your excellency, I hope, will see, in this frank and loyal communication, that all the armaments of the French government have now no other aim but to re-establish public security, and to consolidate the great work of a general pacification. Receive, sir, the assurances of my high consideration.

(Signed) " VILLARET."

Admiral Villaret Joyeuse to the Minister of the Marine and the Colonies at Paris.

" Harbour of Cape François,
on board the Ocean, February 16th.

" CITIZEN MINISTER,

" I return to the account of the operations of the fleet, of which I began to speak in my dispatch of the 21st Pluviose. Amidst the accumulated events which have followed, it was impossible to write a detailed and minute relation of all that has passed since that period; but I include in my recitals, without the omission of one essential circumstance, the whole of our operations; and I trust the first consul will discover the same activity and zeal, to second the designs of the army, and the same desire to share their labours, their glory, and their dangers.

" You already know, citizen minister, what have been the services of the two divisions of the fleet employed at the Cape and at Fort Liberty. A third, under the command of Rear-Admiral Latouche, was destined to assist in the attack of Port Republican. This admiral presented himself the 4th of February. He was preceded by the frigate La Guerrière, to sound the disposition of the commandant, to whom the aid-de-camp of General Boudet, (Citizen Sabes,) presented conciliatory letters, and the proclamation of the consuls. Instead of an answer, the Blacks arrested this officer, as also the first lieutenant of La Guerrière, and all the crew of the boat. They imprisoned the white general Agé and another

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 262.

of the officers; put all the Whites under arrest, and sent on board the frigate an officer of their own, the bearer of a letter for General Boudet, in which Agé advised to suspend the attack and the debarkment of the troops, until the arrival of the black general, Dessalines. Him they expected in the course of the day, or by night at the latest. And the bearer of the letter unequivocally asserted, that the entrance of the fleet into the harbour was to be the signal for setting the town on fire, and the massacre of all the Whites.

"You observe, citizen minister, that through the whole of the affair, their conduct has been insolent, and their language audacious. This news came to General Boudet and Rear-Admiral Latouche, in the afternoon of the 4th of February. The wind was contrary, and it was too late in the day for us to enter the harbour. The two chiefs were alarmed, lest the night should produce some disorder or misfortune. The fleet then began to anchor at Lamentine, before Fort Bizoton, where they discovered a number of people, and the black armies.

"During this unavoidable delay, a second letter was dispatched to the commander of Port Republican, assuring him of the good intentions of the government, so clearly explained in the first consul's proclamation, and in order to reclaim the officers who were detained. To this no reply was returned.

"The 5th, in the morning, all hopes of their submission was overthrown. The debarkment was executed in a manner the most skilful and orderly. Rear-Admiral Latouche had constructed, during the night, armed rafts for the artillery. Two vessels were stationed under Fort Bizoton, and two frigates were placed so as to protect the debarkment. The fort was evacuated without resistance, and 150 black grenadiers joined themselves to our troops. General Boudet immediately marched against the town; and the fleet quitting, with equal celerity, the anchorage off Lamentine, entered the harbour, and came within half a musquet shot of the barrier. The general still offered pardon and the favour of the government to the rebels. They answered him by a continual fire of cannon, howitzers, and musquetry. The chief of his staff, and two of his aid-de-camps, were wounded by his side, as also a considerable number of our brave soldiers. The Argonaut then began to fire upon the enemy; but the grenadiers of the 68th, rushing upon their entrenchments, carried them by the bayonet, and penetrated into the town, where the engagement continued some time with inveterate obstinacy. The Fort St. Joseph was carried in the same manner as the entrenchments. At seven o'clock, General Boudet was entire master of the town, and all the forts, except Fort National, which the Blacks evacuated on the morn-

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ing of the 6th of February, without striking a single blow. Our loss is ten killed and eighty wounded.

" Whilst these events occurred at Port Republican, the captain-general sent General Humbert, with 1200 men, to Port-au-Paix. The vessel La Watigny, Captain Gourdon, the frigates La Clorinde and La Furieuse, carried the troops, and seconded their operations. Here, as every where, peace was offered to the rebels before the employment of force. The messenger who took (February the 9th) the proclamation of the government to the black general Maurepas, with the request that they would receive the French amicably, was repulsed by the firing of cannon: it was absolutely necessary to have recourse to war. It was five in the afternoon: a heavy gale of wind made it necessary to debark as speedily as possible. The commandant, Gourdon, was compelled to tack all night in the narrow canal of La Tortue, embarrassed in his manœuvres by the number of troops he had with him, deceived by the ignorance of pilots, and under the necessity of sacrificing a cable and an anchor, by which his vessel was left at the mercy of the tempest, and his mission failed of its effect.

" The 10th, at break of day, the debarkment was effected, notwithstanding the fire from the forts and the black troops. The frigate La Clorinde, which was alongside the shore, for the purpose of assisting the army, received some shot on board, but La Watigny succeeded in silencing the grand fort, which the Blacks abandoned in disorder, without having time to destroy any thing — some fine barracks, much powder, and some other ammunition; but no sooner had the second corps of troops touched the shore, than the Blacks blew up the other two forts, and set fire to the town. A detachment of 100 armed sailors, and the officers of the fleet, distinguished themselves in a manner worthy of the highest praise. Lieutenant Mesoe of the artillery, Ensign Bordenbach, and the brave Gelin, were killed: the ship lieutenant Livenard, and Lieutenant Kosamel of the artillery, were severely wounded. Two noble fellows, Picot Lapeyrous and Legolias, shewed singular bravery in fighting at the head of the detachment; the latter received a ball which went through his wrist. I have recommended to the general officers, and all the commanders, to employ, on all occasions, the young men who are the hope of our fleet; every where they signalize themselves by a glorious bravery, and a devotion without example.

" The division of Rear-Admiral Gantheume having arrived at the Cape, the 11th of February, I sent the next day the vessel La Jean Bart, with 400 men, for the Port-au-Paix. Two days before, I had dispatched La Mignone to Rear-Admiral Magon. This officer continues to render essential service by his information

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and activity. The captain-general intrusted to him the command of the army, which he united with that of the division stationed at Fort Liberty. Notwithstanding the weakness of his means, he defended a large extent of country, where order and tranquillity were preserved, where the cultivators themselves pursued the incendiaries, and contrived to furnish the army with some advantageous resources; but he did not here confine his services: by his care, the Mulatto general, Clervaux, who commanded at St. Jago, in the department of Cibao, was brought over from the side of the rebels. Muville, the bishop, was the mediator of this happy negociation. All the important points in the French part of the island are now in possession of the republic; the rebels have but little in the Spanish part, although the war only begun the 6th of February. Eight days sufficed for the whole of the operations, which presented a mass of fortunate results, and guaranteed to France, in a very short period, the conquest and possession of her finest colony.

" Every day augmented our resources and diminished our dangers. We found 2,300,000 livres in the coffers of Port-au-Prince: this, however, was of little importance, had we not discovered an instance of dissimulation and hypocrisy, which nothing could disconcert; Toussaint Louverture had the audacity to require that this sum should be returned. On all sides we hear complaints against this obstinate man: he is detested in the Spanish part. Seven hundred Mulattoes, refugees from the island of Cuba, have begged to join against him; these were men devoted to General Rigaud. The dispatch-boat, Le Tri Colore, which had been forced to put into St. Jago de Cuba, brought the intelligence of their desire. I appointed, at the request of the general-in-chief, the frigates La Creole and L'Indienne to bring them hither. This last frigate, which set out from Cadiz four days after Admiral Linois' division, arrived here twenty-four hours before him.

" The 15th, the general appeared in sight of the Cape, with three vessels and two frigates. Judge, citizen minister, of my extreme surprise and regret in seeing this division lay to, at two cables distance from the entrance of the harbour, by a breeze at N. E., which would not permit the pilots to approach. Admiral Linois discovered too late the danger of his position, and, tacking, he made the signal for his division to imitate his manœuvre; but the vessels Le Desaix and Le Saint Gennaro, could not execute the movement with sufficient promptitude, and touched on the breakers. All the assistance which the fleet could possibly give was afforded with the utmost activity. Le Saint Gennaro, after having lost her rudder, only made nine inches of water; (yesterday she made twenty-five inches.) I hope, by an immediate repair, she will be again serviceable to the republic. The

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 262.

Desaix was almost filled with water an hour after the accident, and the water increased every minute.

"I went to the spot with Citizen Molini, chief of the naval staff, Adjutant Cordier, and Citizen Petit, who all, in directing the assistance, discovered equal knowledge and zeal. Captain Palliere, although greatly affected by his misfortune, kept good order on board his vessel. All the troops were disembarked in safety: we have not to regret the loss of a single man, and have saved the rigging and materials of the ship. The frigate La Cornelie set out for Jamaica the 27th of February, and La Bayonnaise has sailed this day, the 28th, for the United States. I have this instant received the following dispatch fom Captain Gourdon commandant of the fleet at Port-au-Paix:

"'Agreeable to the orders which I received from Captain Gourrege, on your part, I sent out the frigate La Furieuse for Le Mole Saint Nicholas, with instructions agreeable to those you have prescribed.

"'At the moment of its departure, there arrived here a numerous deputation, consisting of Blacks and Whites, from the commune of Jean Rabell, bringing a petition signed by a great number of citizens, who offered to submit without striking a blow, and begged the aid of troops to second and assist the entrance of the frigate into the Mole. General Humbert has consented to supply them with 100 men of the marine artillery, which the frigate may leave at Jean Rabell: she is next to present herself before the Mole, and fulfill exactly the orders I have given them on your part. I have forwarded from hence a messenger, to observe these important points. He is this day returned with satisfactory tokens.'

"This information, citizen minister, gives us reason to hope that in a few days we shall occupy Le Mole St. Nicholas, and you well know how to appreciate the importance of this position.

"Accept, citizen minister, the assurance of my respect.

"VILLARET."[1]

Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 262.

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[1] *Letter from Rear-Admiral Linois, commander of a squadron, to the Admiral Villaret Joyeuse.*

"Intrepid, Roads of the Cape,
28 Pluviose.

"Before I should give you the detailed account of the entrance of the squadron under my command in these roads, I have the honour of sending you a copy of the letter which I have this day addressed to the minister.

"Health and respect.
"LINOIS."

"CITIZEN MINISTER,

"I have the honour to inform you, that after a good passage of twenty-eight days, I arrived at St. Domingo with the squadron under my command, the 25th of this month (14th of February). Agreeable to my instructions, I sent forward a frigate to learn whether Admiral Villaret had anchored, and the 26th (15th of February) the frigate returned, and informed me of his arrival. I then steered for the Cape, taking myself the lead of the division, and having consulted the details of Puysegur on the navigation of those seas, I lay to, according to his directions, very near the mountain of Piccolet, in order to have the advantage of the breeze in entering the port. I also hoped to find pilots there; but the strong breeze at E.N.E. prevented them from coming

Bonaparte's Letter to Toussaint.

"Citizen General,

"Peace with England and all the powers of Europe, which places the republic in the first degree of greatness and power, enables, at the same time, the government to direct its attention to St. Domingo. We send thither Citizen Leclerc, our brother-in-law, in quality of captain-general, as first magistrate of the colony. He is accompanied with the necessary forces to make the sovereignty of the French people be respected. It is under these circumstances that we are disposed to hope that you will prove to us and to all France the sincerity of the sentiments you have constantly expressed in the different letters you have written to us. We have conceived for you esteem, and we wish to recognize and proclaim the great services you have rendered to the French people. If their colours fly on St. Domingo, it is to you and your brave Blacks that they are indebted. Called by your talents and the force of circumstances to the first command, you have destroyed the civil war, put a stop to the persecutions of some ferocious men, restored to honour the religion and the worship of God, from whom all things come. The constitution that you have formed, in containing many good things, contains others which are contrary to the dignity and the sovereignty of the French people, of which St. Domingo forms but a part.

"The circumstances in which you are placed, surrounded on all sides by enemies, without the mother country being able to

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out. I looked in vain for the flag that had been seen there formerly, and which served as a beacon for the entrance into the harbour. I did not know that it had been destroyed. I perceived then that I had no time to lose in standing off, which I did, making a signal at the same time for the squadron to follow. The Intrepid executed the necessary manœuvres perfectly well; but the ship of the line Desaix, and the St. Gennaro, being slower in their movements, struck, and I passed the night at some distance, in the greatest uneasiness respecting the fate of those two ships. My fears were but too well founded; for on entering yesterday at the anchorage at the Cape, with the rest of my division, I perceived the Desaix, which was past relief; the St. Gennaro was in the road, and all the troops were landed in the night by the orders of General Leclerc. You, citizen minister, are yourself a seaman; you know my zeal to discharge the trust reposed in me.

"You can, therefore, conceive the pain I feel in announcing the fatal loss of the Desaix. I shall, at a future time, give you a more detailed account of this loss.

"It grieves me that this misfortune should happen to my friend, the brave Palliere, who distinguished himself so honourably at Algesiras. The number of persons aboard his ship, no doubt, encumbered him so much as to prevent his performing the necessary manœuvre with that precision and dispatch which the case required. As for my part, my eagerness to land the troops without delay, the hopes that I had of finding pilots at the entrance of the harbour, or of being able to lead the division in myself, on the supposition that the beacons were still there, made me take, with too much confidence, a position which has been fatal to some of the ships under my command.

"May I find, citizen minister, under the orders of Admiral Villaret, a happy opportunity of making amends for the misfortune I have met with."

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succour or to feed you, have rendered legitimate the articles of that constitution which otherwise could not be so. But now that circumstances are so happily changed, you will be the first to render homage to the sovereignty of the nation, which reckons you among the number of its most illustrious citizens, by the services you have rendered to it, and by the talents and the force of character with which nature has endowed you. A contrary conduct would be irreconcileable with the idea we have conceived of you. It would deprive you of your numerous claims to the gratitude and the good offices of the republic, and would dig under your feet a precipice which, while it swallowed you up, would contribute to the misery of those brave Blacks, whose courage we love, and whom we should be sorry to punish for rebellion.

" We have made known to your children and to their preceptor, the sentiments by which we are animated. We send them back to you. Assist with your counsels, your influence, and your talents, the captain-general. What can you desire, the freedom of the Blacks? You know that in all the countries we have been in, we have given it to the people who had it not. Do you desire consideration, honours, fortune? It is not, after the services you have rendered, the services you can still render, with the particular sentiments we have for you, that you ought to be doubtful with respect to your consideration, your fortune, and the honours that await you.

" Make known to the people of St. Domingo, that the solicitude which France has always evinced for their happiness, has often been rendered impotent by the imperious circumstances of war; that men, come from the continent to agitate and nourish factions, were the produce of the factions which themselves destroy the country; that, in future, peace, and the power of the government, ensure their prosperity and freedom. Tell them, that if liberty be to them the first of wants, they cannot enjoy it but with the title of French citizens, and that every act contrary to the interests of the country, the obedience they owe to the government and the captain-general, who is the delegate of it, would be a crime against the national sovereignty which would eclipse their services, and render St. Domingo the theatre of a wretched war, in which fathers and children would massacre each other. And you, general, recollect, that if you are the first of your colour that has attained such great power, and distinguished himself by his bravery and his military talents, you are also, before God and us, the principal person responsible for their conduct.

" If there be disaffected persons, who say to the individuals that have played a principal part in the troubles of St. Domingo, that we are coming to ascertain what they have done during the times of anarchy, assure them, that we will take cognizance of their conduct

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only in this last circumstance, and that we shall not recur to the past, but to find out the traits that we may distinguish them in the war carried on against the Spanish and English, who have been our enemies.

" Rely, without reserve, on our esteem, and conduct yourself as one of the principal citizens of the greatest nation in the world ought to do.

" The First Consul,
" BONAPARTE."

" Paris, 17 Brumaire."

Proclamation.

" The First Consul to the Inhabitants of St. Domingo.

" INHABITANTS OF ST. DOMINGO, Paris, the 17th Brumaire.

" Whatever your origin, or your colour, you are all French, you are all free, and all equal before God and before the republic. France has been, like St. Domingo, a prey to factions, torn by civil and foreign wars. But all has changed, all people have embraced the French, and have sworn to them peace and amity; all the French have embraced each other also, and have sworn to be all friends and brothers. Come also, embrace the French, and rejoice to see again your friends and your brothers of Europe. The government sends you the Captain-General Leclerc; he has brought with him great forces for protecting you against your enemies and against the enemies of the republic. If it be said to you, these forces are destined to ravish from you your liberty; answer, the republic will not permit it to be taken away from us.

" Rally around the captain-general; he brings you abundance and peace. Rally all of you around him. Whoever shall dare to separate himself from the captain-general will be a traitor to his country, and the indignation of the republic will devour him, as the fire devours your dried canes.

" Done at Paris in the palace of the government, the 17th Brumaire, year 10 of the French republic.

" The First Consul,
(Signed) " BONAPARTE.
" The Secretary of State,
(Signed) " H. B. MARET."

On the 9th, General Toussaint sent the following letter to General Domage.

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A Letter from Toussaint Louverture, Governor of St. Domingo, to Citizen Domage, General of Brigade, commanding in chief the District of Jeremie.

"From Head-Quarters at St. Marc, February 9th, 1802.

"I send to you, my dear general, my aid-de-camp, Cliany. He is the bearer of the present, and will communicate to you, on my part, the business with which I have charged him. The Whites of France and of the colony, united together, wish to take away liberty. A great many ships of war and troops have arrived, and taken possession of the Cape, of Port Republican, and of Fort Liberty. The Cape, after a vigorous resistance, has fallen, but the enemy have found there nothing but a town and a plain of ashes. The forts have been blown up, and every thing is burned. The town of Port Republican has been delivered up to them by the traitor, general of brigade, Agé, as also the Fort Bizoton, which surrendered without firing a shot, through the cowardice and treason of the chief of battalion Bardet, formerly officer of the south.

"The general of division, Dessalines, supports at this moment a cordon at Croix de Bouquets, and all our other places are upon the defensive. As the place of Jeremie is very strong from its natural advantages, you will maintain yourself there, and defend it with the courage which I know you possess. Put no confidence in the Whites; they will betray you if they can; their manifest wish is the return of slavery. In consequence, I give you a carte-blanche. Every thing you do will be done well. Raise the cultivators en masse, and make them fully sensible of this truth, that they must put no confidence in those active persons who may have secretly received proclamations from the Whites of France, and who would circulate them privately for the purpose of seducing the friends of liberty.

"I have given orders to the general of brigade Laplume, to burn the town of Cayes, the other towns, and all the plains, in case they should not be able to resist the force of the enemy, and then all the troops of the different garrisons, and all the cultivators, would go to increase your numbers at Jeremie. You will come to a plain understanding with General Laplume; that you may execute your plans well, you will employ all the female cultivators in planting provisions in great quantities.

"Endeavour to inform me as well as you can of your position. I depend entirely upon you, and leave you absolute master, to do every thing to withdraw us from this horrible yoke. I wish you good health. Health and friendship.

"Toussaint Louverture."

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February the 16th, General Leclerc issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of St. Domingo, in which he said, he was come there, in the name of the French government, to bring them peace and happiness. That General Toussaint had sent him his children, and declared that there was nothing he so much desired as the prosperity of the colony; that he (Leclerc) had promised Toussaint to make him his lieutenant-general, but that Toussaint's replies were only evasions to gain time.

That he (Leclerc) was marching into the country, and promised liberty to the people, and to respect their persons and property; that it was not necessary to prove what a frantic monster Toussaint was.

The following orders were issued by Leclerc.

"Art. 1. The General Toussaint and the General Christophe are put out of the protection of the law; all citizens are ordered to pursue them, and to treat them as rebels to the French republic.

"2. From the day on which the French army shall occupy a position, all officers, whether civil or military, who shall obey other orders than those of the generals of the army which I command, shall be treated as rebels.

"3. The cultivators who, seduced into error and deceived by the perfidious insinuations of the rebel generals, may have taken arms, shall be regarded as children who have strayed, and shall be sent to their plantations, provided they do not seek to excite insurrection.

"4. The soldiers of the demi-brigade, who shall abandon the army of Toussaint, shall be received into the French army.

"5. The General Augustin Clervaux, who commanded in the department of Cibao, having acknowledged the French government, and the authority of the captain-general, is continued in his rank and in his command."

On the 17th of February, the division of General Desfourneux advanced to Limbé, that of General Hardy to the Grand Boucamp and the Mornes, and the division of General Rochambeau against La Januerie and the wood of L'Ame. The garrisons of the Cape and Fort Dauphine advanced against St. Luzanne, Le Trou, and Valliere. These divisions were attacked by the Negroes, who were concealed by the forests which bordered the vallies, and had a secure retreat in the fastnesses: the columns, notwithstanding, took possession of the positions they were ordered to occupy. On the 29th, the three grand divisions made a further movement, and on the 30th, Desfourneux took possession of Plaisance. Here, the French say, they were joined by a black commander, with 200 cavalry and 300 foot. At the same time General Hardy's division carried the post of Marmelade by the bayonet, and obliged Chris-

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Annual Register, 1802, p. 180. Leclerc's Proclamation.

tophe to retreat; on the same day, General Rochambeau advanced to St. Michael, without much resistance. Over the division of General Humbert, the black general, Maurepas, gained an advantage, which induced Leclerc to make greater exertions to dislodge him from his position; but the attempt failed, and the French were compelled to retreat with great loss on the 20th of February. On the 22d, Christophe was dislodged, by General Hardy, from a post near Plaisance; and after several skirmishes, he retreated to Gonaives, laying waste the country behind him.

On the 24th, General Rochambeau entered the ravine A-Coleure, where Toussaint, with about 4000 troops, had taken a strong position; after a desperate resistance he was obliged to retreat, leaving 800 of his men on the field of battle.

On the 27th, General Boudet was master of St. Mark.

On the 29th, the whole French force were concentrated to attack General Maurepas; but the attack was prevented by his offering to submit to the proclamation of the French government. His force consisted of 2000 regulars, and seven pieces of cannon. He had previously disbanded 8000 Negroes, who were under his command.

" Maurepas, a man of mild and gentle manners, esteemed by his fellow-citizens for his integrity, had been one of the first to join the French, and had rendered them the most signal services: yet this man was suddenly carried off to Port de Paix, and put on board the admiral's vessel, then at anchor in the roads, where, after binding him to the main-mast, they, in derision, with nails, such as are used in ship-building, fixed two old epaulettes on his shoulders, and an old general's hat on his head. In that frightful condition, these cannibals, after having glutted their savage mirth, precipitated him, with his wife and children, into the sea."

After this Toussaint was no longer able to keep the field; but pursued a desultory mode of warfare, which, though slower, was safer and more effectual.

In the beginning of March, Leclerc took possession of Fort Republicain; the Black general, La Plume, neither destroyed it nor laid waste the adjacent country. The town of Leogane was burnt by Dessalines, another of the black generals, previous to his retreat. Leclerc collected his forces, and made Port-au-Prince his head-quarters. Generals Boudet and Dugna were both sent to attack Crete a Pierrot, and both completely routed. Le Clerc, provoked at these checks, and at a narrow escape which he had also experienced, ordered his heavy artillery from Port-au-Prince to reduce the fort. General Salines fell upon a small camp of Blacks, and put every man to the sword, and Rochambeau desolated the country with fire and sword. On the 22d of March, Rocham-

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Lacroixs' Memoires pour servir a l'Histoire de la Revolution de St. Domingue.
Quarterly Review for September, 1819, p. 446.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 500, 501.

beau attempted to place the artillery on an eminence, to fire upon the fort; but Dessalines opened a fire upon the spot, and killed all the French upon the hill. Rochambeau now attempted to gain the fort by assault; but from this also he was compelled to desist with dishonour and loss.

In the night, Dessalines made a sally, and with part of the garrison cut his way through the besiegers. The French now assaulted the fort again for three days, the Blacks defended it bravely, when knowing that no mercy would be shewn them if they were taken, on the night of the third day they attempted to cut their way through the assailants; but their column divided in forcing the passage, and the greater part of them were massacred by the European savages. Those that escaped passed the Artibonite, and joined their countrymen.

Upon the capture of Crete a Pierrot, Leclerc, in direct violation of his proclamations, published an order, directing the proprietors to re-assert their claims to their revolted slaves. At this time Toussaint and Christophe, who had formed a junction in the mountains, taking advantage of the French troops being drawn from the northern province, descended into the plain of Cape François, bearing down every thing before them, and augmenting their numbers by those Negroes whom Leclerc's late order had reduced to slavery.

Dondon and Marmelade fell into their hands without resistance, and they approached within half a league of the city of Cape François, where the utmost consternation prevailed. This unexpected irruption recalled Leclerc to the city; the crews of the ships were landed to assist the troops, and marched to attack the Blacks. The French were repulsed with great slaughter, and compelled to seek shelter under the fortifications of the city.

Generals Hardy and Rochambeau approached the city by forced marches; but the Blacks continued masters of the plain; and having laid the whole country in ruins, withdrew to the mountains of Hincha.

Leclerc was now convinced of the impolicy of the orders which he had issued respecting the slaves. His European troops were dying by hundreds, and perfidy seemed his only resource. Accordingly he issued another proclamation, in which he declared that the basis of the provisionary organization which he would give the colony, was "liberty and equality to all the inhabitants of St. Domingo, without regard to colour." This added to the exertions of his emissaries, and the arrival in April of two squadrons with reinforcements, one from Havre, and the other from Flushing, acted powerfully upon Toussaint's followers. Christophe persuaded Toussaint that the present was a favourable time for negociating a peace, and also proposed to Leclerc, that a truce should be agreed

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 502, 503.

upon, on the basis of oblivion of the past, the freedom of the men in arms, and the preservation of his own rank and that of Toussaint, Dessalines, and all their officers. Leclerc acceded to these proposals as far as related to Christophe, and invited Toussaint to Cape François. Toussaint wished to pass the residue of his days in peace on one of his own plantations, and would have accepted the same terms as had been given to Christophe. Leclerc refused, and Toussaint returned to his camp. Dessalines submitted to the joint opinions of Christophe and Toussaint, although he had no hopes from such an unnatural compromise. Leclerc now wrote to Toussaint: " You, general," he said, " and your troops will be employed and treated like the rest of the army. With regard to yourself, you desire repose, and you deserve it; after a man has sustained for several years the government of St. Domingo, I apprehend he needs repose. I leave you at liberty to retire to which of your estates you please. I rely so much on the attachment you bear the colony of St. Domingo, as to believe you will employ what moments of leisure you may have during your retreat in communicating to me your ideas respecting the means proper to be taken to cause agriculture and commerce again to flourish. As soon as a list and statement of the troops under General Dessalines are transmitted to me, I will communicate my instructions as to the positions they are to take."

Hostilities ceased on the 1st of May.

In a proclamation issued by Leclerc, at the Cape, dated the 5th Florial, year 10, he declares, " that the time is arrived when order shall succeed to chaos: that the basis of the provisionary organization which he would give the colony, but which should not be definitive until approved of by the French government, was liberty and equality.

" That, to assist him in the important work, he had given orders to the generals of the south and west divisions to select, for each of those departments, seven citizens, proprietors and merchants (without regard to colour), who, with eight more, which he would himself choose, for the department of the north, were to assemble at the Cape within the month, to impart their observations to him on the plans he should submit to their consideration: that it was not a deliberative assembly he established; he knew too well the evils which meetings of that nature had brought upon the colony, to have that idea, and that the men so appointed were to consider it a flattering proof of his consideration for them."

Coke's West Indies, vol iii. p. 505.
Annual Register, 1802, p. 179. Proclamation, Leclerc.

Copy of a Letter from the General-in-Chief of the French Army of St. Domingo, to the Minister of Marine and Colonies, dated head quarters at the Cape, May the 8*th.*

" CITIZEN MINISTER.

" I lose not a moment to send you citizen Bruyores, my aid-de-camp, to inform you of the happy events which have re-established tranquillity in this immense and fine colony. You must have received the dispatches by which I gave you an account of the military events which took place up to the 20th of April. Defeated every where, dispersed, terror was in the camps of the rebels. Without magazines, almost without powder, they were reduced to live upon bananas. The arrival of the squadron from Flushing and Havre contributed to make this last blow complete. Christophe took means to inform me that he had been always the friend of the Whites, whose social qualities and understanding he esteemed more than any man of colour; that all the Europeans who had been at St. Domingo could bear testimony in favour of his principles and conduct; that imperious circumstances, which govern and frequently decide the conduct of public men, had not suffered him to regulate his conduct according to his will. In fine, that he wished to know whether there were still any means of safety for him. I caused it to be communicated to him in answer, that there still remained with the French people a door open to repentance; that it was the constant practice of the first consul to weigh the actions of men, and that a single bad action, whatever might be its consequences, never effaced with him the remembrance of past services; that it was true the accounts which I had received before I set out were favourable to him personally: in fine, that if he would place himself at my discretion, he should have reason to be satisfied. He still hesitated; several columns went in pursuit of him; some slight skirmishes took place. Christophe at length caused me to be informed that I had only to send him my orders. I sent him my instructions to repair alone to the town of the Cape; to send back all the cultivators whom he had still with him; to assemble all the troops who were under his command. All this he punctually executed; more than 2000 inhabitants of the Cape who were in remote mountains have returned. The magazines and pieces of artillery which he had, are in our hands, and about 1200 troops of the line, which remained with him, have joined ours. A portion of them has been disarmed and sent back to cultivation. I keep the remainder in order to incorporate them with the colonial troops. The submission of Christophe completely frightened Toussaint. He used every means to make known to me the melancholy situation in which he found himself, and with what pain he saw a war continued without object or aim. He added finally, that most un-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. pp. 518.

fortunate circumstances had already occasioned much calamity; but that whatever might be the strength of the French army, he should be sufficiently strong and sufficiently powerful to burn, ravage, and sell dearly a life that had been sometimes useful to the mother country. All these communications, frequently reiterated, affords cause for deep reflections. The three-fourths of the colony had still escaped the calamities of fire; and Toussaint, and the Blacks, although they had committed many crimes, and made war with extreme barbarity, had never seen France, and had constantly received for twelve years past false ideas of our strength and character. I caused Toussaint to be informed that he must repair to the Cape, and that the hour of pardon might still come. Toussaint did not fail to avail himself of the permission which I had given. He came to me, requested to be taken again into favour, and swore to be faithful to France. I have accepted his submission; I have ordered him to retire to a plantation near Gonaives, and never to leave it without my orders. I have placed Dessalines in a plantation near St. Marc. All the cultivators who had been carried away by them have returned. I shall incorporate with the colonial troops such of the disciplined Blacks as I shall think I ought to suffer to carry arms. The magazines, and the pieces of artillery which they had dragged over the steep rocks, and hid in the thickets, are daily restored to us; they amounted to above 100. A new æra commences. You will see by all the resolutions and measures which I have taken, that we are busily employed with the administration of the colony. The season commences, but the repose which our troops take, will enable us to pass it with the least possible loss. We are abundantly supplied with provisions. Thanks to your care."

"Health and respect.

"LECLERC."

"From the Cape, May 8th.

"We are employed in rebuilding the Cape with an activity which is difficult to conceive. This town is rising from its ashes. I do not dissemble the mischief that has been done in several cantons in the colony; but I am now convinced, from the several accounts which I have received, that more than three-fourths of the colony, the quarters of Artibonite, all the part of the south, of the Mole, of Fort Liberté, are entirely saved. The American vessels arrive in great numbers in our ports, laden with corn, planks, and materials necessary for building. Citizen Pichon has informed me, that the Americans had shown very much dissatisfaction at the measure which I adopted on the moment of my arrival; but they are wrong, I think, in speaking of the past. Agents of

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Naval Chronicle, vol. vii. p. 519.

the American government were with Toussaint, and did not always suggest to him good intentions.

"The muskets, cannon, and powder, furnished with a new activity since the preliminaries were known, came from the United States. It was, therefore, natural that I should take measures to prevent this communication with the rebels. Our commissaries in America do not feel much concern for the interests of the public treasury. An unfortunate little brig, which you sent out to us, has cost £28,000 for repairs. Citizen Pichon must have been sensible that the brig was not worth half that sum. The national commerce begins also to send me some vessels. I have given orders that the colonial system should be put again in activity, as much as possible. All the vessels coming from France will not pay any sort of duties on importation. They pay 10 per cent. upon exportation; perhaps it would be proper to reduce it to five. For the rest, I await your directions upon this subject. The present regulation can do no injury to commerce, as you may, in the meantime, diminish the duties upon articles imported from the west in the same proportion. The colony, moreover, is in a situation to receive such commercial regulation as you may think fit; and if our large commercial cities shall begin to supply us with the articles which we want, we shall be able, in a little while, to revive the edicts of 1784, relative to customs. For the rest, citizen minister, assure the first consul, that I have not, for one moment, lost sight of the direct instructions which he has given me, as well in a political point of view as in relation to commerce, and that I shall consider the day when the national commerce alone may be able to supply St. Domingo, as a happy day for me, and the French army; as a colonial war ought to have for its result the triumph of commerce.

"I have sent General Duqua into the southern part; Rochambeau is on the side of St. Marc.

"Health and respect.

"Leclerc."

In hopes of avoiding the fever which was raging among the troops, Leclerc retired to Tortuga, and once more re-issued the orders he had been compelled to annul. By the surrender of the black generals he thought himself secure.

The Blacks appealed to Toussaint, to interfere in their behalf; at the same time declaring their determination never to submit to this atrocious violation of their rights.

Toussaint, in consequence, on the 27th of May, sent the following letter to an official agent at the Cape: —

"It is said that General Leclerc is in an ill state of health at Tortuga; of this you will inform me. If you see the general-in-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 506.

chief, be sure to tell him, that the cultivators are no longer disposed to obey me; for the planters wish to set them to work at Hericourt, which they certainly ought not to do.

"I have to ask you, whether any one near the person of the general-in-chief can be gained to procure the release of D—, who would be very useful to me from his influence at La Nouvelle and elsewhere.

"Acquaint Gongembre that he should not quit the Borage, where the cultivators must not be set to work."

This letter was transmitted to Leclerc, who immediately sent to seize Toussaint. Two armed ships stood close in for Gonaives near Toussaint's residence. Several soldiers were landed in the night; they surrounded the house; their commanders, Brunet and Ferrari, with some grenadiers, broke open the door, and Toussaint and all his family, were hurried off to the ships. The alarm soon spread, the Blacks attacked the soldiers; but came too late to rescue their chief. Several of the Blacks were made prisoners, and two of their leaders put to death.

Toussaint's associates were also seized. "Their fate seems to have been too abominable even for Leclerc to boast of."

Upon the 12th of May, General Leclerc, in a letter to the French minister of marine, says, that he had intercepted letters from Toussaint to a person named Fontaine at the Cape, which incontestably proved that Toussaint was conspiring to resume his former influence; that under those circumstances he had ordered him to be arrested, which, though a difficult affair, was successfully executed by General Brunet and the aid-de-camp Ferrari; that Toussaint and his family were sent to France, to be at the disposal of the French government; that his arrest had produced some assemblages; that two insurgent chiefs were ordered to be shot, and one hundred others arrested, and sent on board the fleet.

Leclerc then says, "the excessive heat, and the disorders that afflict us, render the work of organizing the colony extremely painful, and I wait with impatience for the month of September, when the season will restore us all our activity." He concludes with saying, that the departure of Toussaint had caused a general joy at the Cape; and then names three officers of high rank, who had suffered by the climate.

Upon the 4th of July, Leclerc, by proclamation, imposed a contribution, of thirteen millions of francs, upon the inhabitants of St. Domingo, for the exclusive use of the army; landed proprietors were to pay one fifth of their income, and houses of public accommodation one half.

Innumerable Blacks took up their residence in the mountains, and ridiculed every idea of surrendering to the Europeans. In the

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Annual Register, 1802, pp. 63. 181. Leclerc's Dispatches.

beginning of October, Leclerc sent his aid-de-camp to France, to, report the state of the colony. From his dispatches it appeared that September, instead of restoring the troops to activity, had brought with it nothing but disease and misery; Leclerc himself was dangerously, almost hopelessly ill; the fever still raged among the troops. The reinforcements which arrived from Europe, smitten with horror at the scene, were seized with despondency, and died in despair.

Christophe, Dessalines, and Clervaux, had rejoined the Blacks. Many of the commanders of the indigenous army displayed surprizing talents, and were pursuing a career it was impossible to check. One of them, a Congo Negro, named "Sans Souci," continued his savage and successful incursions; but his haunts could never be discovered. Such were the outlines of the picture drawn by Leclerc of the situation of this colony in October.

He now murdered the black troops which had been incorporated with the French army. Ship loads were collected and suffocated in the holds; in one instance, 600 were surrounded and massacred on the spot. Such slaughters daily took place in the vicinity of Cape François, that the air became tainted with putrid exhalations.

By the middle of October, Fort Dauphin, Port-au-Paix, and several other posts were completely lost to the French, who now imported and used blood-hounds in their wicked warfare. Great numbers of Negroes, who had been hunted down near Port Republican, were thrown overboard in the Bight of Leogane. The sea rolled back their corpses on the beach, and disclosed the bloody transaction.

On the night of the 1st of November, Leclerc was called to answer for his misdeeds in the other world. He had been driven from Tortuga, and compelled to reside in the midst of the pestilence. He left Rochambeau to succeed him. The Blacks were not only masters of the country, but even blockaded the French in their fortresses; and though reinforcements were continually arriving to the French, they did little more than pass through the hospital to the grave.

Upon the 1st of December, the French attacked the Blacks in Fort Dauphin, and succeeded in dislodging them. Twenty-five pieces of cannon, and all the magazines, fell into the hands of the conquerors.

"During the war," Depon says, "the Spaniards of America had not only the privilege of frequenting English ports, but each vessel had also a safe conduct or passport from the English admirals, by means of which they were respected, protected, and even escorted by English cruisers. The safe conduct answered only for one voyage; but was renewed without difficulty. At first, it was

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Annual Register, 1803, p. 35.

Depon's South America, vol. ii. p. 55.

obtained for the sum of eighteen dollars; but the price augmented in proportion to the demand. No other formality was required than the exhibition of this passport on entering an English harbour, and to all the armed vessels of that nation met at sea. The Spanish flag alone received this protection. No such secret understandings were attached to the tri-coloured flag. Every French vessel was a good prize for the English; but every Spanish vessel was not. Whatever may have occasioned this singular conduct on the part of the English, it is certain that they acquired by it the exclusive commerce of Spanish America, which they enjoy with so much the greater security, as the Spaniards themselves carried their cash and their produce to the English ports, and purchased there the merchandise of Europe." There have been counted in the road of Kingston, eighty Spanish vessels, all under their proper flag; in that of Curaçoa sixty, and at Trinidad more than forty. This commerce employed above 400 vessels, which cleared out in Spanish ports for some French or neutral colony, whither they never went. On their return they presented French papers, the falsehood of which, though evident, was never either punished or investigated.

Porto Cavello alone employed in this commerce 100 vessels. The indulgence of the custom-house officers to the pretended destination of vessels was extended also to the cargoes, a considerable portion of which they allowed to pass without distinction and without duties. "From my own observation," Depon says, "and the testimony of persons whom I have no reason to suspect of exaggeration, I estimate the value of this favouritism at a third of each cargo," and the exports from Porto Cavello at 1,300,000 dollars, exclusive of the cash which, with the credit obtained by the Spanish merchants, make the importation of dry goods to exceed by more than one-half the value of the exported produce.

The Spaniards had no neutral or friendly colony to which they could legally resort, except Guadaloupe; St. Domingo had been declared in a state of revolt by the government of Caraccas, and all intercourse prohibited. It became therefore necessary that all vessels going to Jamaica, Curaçoa, or Trinidad, should clear out for Guadaloupe. Hence "the custom-house registers of Porto Cavello exhibited the marks of an active and important commerce between that colony and Terra Firma, while the customs of Guadaloupe made no mention of any arrival from Porto Cavello." These connections of the Spanish Americans with the English ceased only with the war.

In the beginning of July, a society of Methodists was formed in Morant Bay, Jamaica, consisting of about thirty persons, which by the ensuing November had augmented to ninety. In consequence of their meetings being disturbed, an application was

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Coke's West Indies, vol. i. pp. 443, 444.

made for a licence for the houses in which the meetings were held, but this was refused by the magistrates, and the houses indicted at the next quarter sessions as nuisances; but as nothing could be proved against them "hostile to the laws either of God or man," it was given up.

In December, however, the legislative assembly of Jamaica passed an act; "the dreadful effects of which," Dr. Coke says, "to the cause of religion in Jamaica, was almost incalculable." "Not only the Methodist missionaries, but many preachers of different denominations, were involved in its influence. Mr. Reid the Scotch missionary, and Mr. Sweigle the baptist minister, together with all the local preachers and exhorters throughout the island, were silenced."

The act forbade any person, not qualified as directed by the laws of Jamaica and Great Britain, from preaching or teaching in any meeting or assembly of Negroes or people of colour within the island, under penalty of being deemed and taken to be a rogue and a vagabond; any magistrate might commit the offender to the common gaol, and any three magistrates, upon due conviction of the offender, might commit him or her, if of free condition, to the workhouse, to be kept to hard labour one month for the first offence, and for every subsequent offence, six months each; if a slave, the offender was to receive a public flogging, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes; and "whenever the offence, committed by a white person, shall appear of extraordinary heinousness, it shall and may be lawful for any one or more justices of the peace, and he and they are hereby required to secure the appearance of any such offender at the next subsequent supreme or assize court, by sufficient bail or commitment, to answer for the offence; and, on conviction, to suffer such punishment as such court shall see fit to inflict, not extending to life." And any person permitting such meetings in their house, was declared to be a rogue and a vagabond; and to be fined £100. This act passed the assembly and the council the 17th of December, and was signed by the governor the next day.

In St. Vincent's, the Methodists had between two and three thousand Blacks in society; they had two love feasts every quarter, because their chapel was not large enough for more than one-half of the society to meet in at once. On the first Sunday in every month, they administered the sacrament to between one and two hundred communicants.

In May, the Methodist missionary at Antigua, reported, that within the last eighteen months, 800 new members had been added to the society.

The Methodists, in Barbadoes, repaired their old chapel and increased their numbers to thirty-six.

At Nevis, in May, Mr. J. Brownell, the Methodist missionary,

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 157. 282. 452.; vol. iii. p. 27.

reported the number of Whites in society to be only eight; but that of Blacks and coloured people 900. The country societies, he says, now agreed to meet regularly at Hog Valley on Sundays, and to contribute their mite weekly towards buying the piece of land for building, to remove the old chapel from the town. Their number in the country society was about fifteen hundred. They were greatly delighted with the prospect of having, as they termed it, "a chapel and burying ground of their own."

The number of Methodists in society at St. Christopher's, in May, amounted to 2587. Mr. Brownell, the missionary, said, "the crop of canes is so great, that many companies of Negroes are obliged to work until midnight; and therefore having no time to attend their classes, I did not take their names into the account." Their Methodist Sunday schools were also declared by the president to deserve public support.

Until this year there was no restraint in St. Christopher's on manumission. In the act passed this year, it is expressly recited, "as a great inconvenience, that the number of free Negroes and of free persons of colour, was augmented by the enfranchisement of slaves;" and a tax of £1000 was imposed on the manumission of every slave who had not resided two years on the island; and half the sum upon a resident or native; — the council and assembly might dispense with the tax at their discretion.

No slave, to whom freedom was bequeathed, was to enjoy the same, unless the sum of £500 was devised by the testator, and paid into the treasury of the island within six months after his death. If the executor should not choose to hazard the payment of such a sum, and the grant of manumission, both of which any creditor might dispute, within half the time which the law generally allows for ascertaining the sufficiency of the estate, and paying the legacies: in either case, the Negro was to lose his freedom; and the executor, if intitled to the residue, was to gain £500 by his prudent omission, in addition to the value of the injured, helpless slave.

Such was the hatred of these legislators to the freedom of the Negroes, that they determined, if possible, to prevent the deliverance of slaves, by a master's favour, from the actual restraints of slavery. They therefore enacted, "that if any proprietor of a slave should, by any contract in writing or otherwise, dispense with the slave's service, or should be proved before a justice of the peace not to have exercised any right of ownership over such slave, and maintained him or her at his own expense, within a month, the slave should be publicly sold at vendue by the provost-marshal; and should become the property of the purchaser, and the purchase money should be paid into the colonial treasury."

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 67.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 401, 402.

The annals of legislative despotism are said not to furnish a parallel for this modern act of oppression; which has been passed, since the solicitations of his Majesty's government were made to the colonial assemblies, to improve and liberalize their slave codes.

Upon the 27th of March, the definitive treaty of peace, between England, France, Spain, and the Batavian republic, was signed at Amiens.

The following articles relate to the West Indies.

"Art. 3. His Britannic Majesty restores to the French republic and its allies, viz. His Catholic Majesty and the Batavian republic, all the possessions and colonies which respectively belonged to them, and which have been either occupied or conquered by the British forces during the course of the present war, with the exception of the island of Trinidad and of the Dutch possessions in the island of Ceylon.

"Art. 4. His Catholic Majesty cedes and guarantees in full property and sovereignty the island of Trinidad to His Britannic Majesty.

"Art. 7. The territories and possessions of Her most Faithful Majesty are maintained in their integrity, such as they were antecedent to the war. However, the boundaries of French and Portugueze Guiana are fixed by the river Arawari, which empties itself into the ocean above Cape North, near the islands Nuovo and Penetentia, about a degree and a third of north latitude. These boundaries shall run along the river Arawari, from its mouth the most distant from Cape North, to its source, and afterwards on a right line drawn from that source to the Rio Blanco, towards the west. In consequence, the northern bank of the river Arawari, from its distant mouth to its source, and the territories that lie north of the line of the boundaries laid down as above, shall belong in full sovereignty to the French republic. The southern bank of the said river from the same mouth, and all the territories to the south of the said line, shall belong to Her Faithful Majesty. The navigation of the river Arawari, along the whole of its course, shall be common to both nations.

By article 12, "The evacuations, cessions, and restitutions, stipulated by the present treaty" are to be executed "on the continent and seas of America and Africa, within three months after the ratification of the treaty."

Article 13 is the same as article 14 of the preliminary treaty, (which see, 1801.)

By article 14, "all the sequestrations laid on either side, on funds, revenues, and credits, of what nature soever they may be, belonging to any of the contracting powers, or to their citizens or subjects, shall be taken off immediately after the signature of this definitive treaty. The decision of all claims among the individuals of the respective nations, for debts, property, effects, or rights, of any nature whatsoever, which should, according to received usages and the law of nations, be preferred to the epoch of the peace, shall be referred to the competent tribunals; in all those cases speedy and complete justice shall be done in the countries wherein those claims shall be respectively preferred."

By article 16, " two months are allowed for the capture of ships and property from the Canary islands to the equator."

By article 20, it is agreed that the contracting parties, upon requisitions made by them respectively, or by their ministers or officers, duly authorised for that purpose, shall be bound to deliver up to justice persons accused of murder, forgery, or fraudulent bankruptcy, committed within the jurisdiction of the requiring party, provided that this shall only be done in cases in which the evidence of the crime shall be such, that the laws of the place, in which the accused person shall be discovered, would have authorised the detaining and bringing him to trial had the offence been committed there. The expences of the arrest and the prosecution shall be defrayed by the party making the requisition; but this article has no sort of reference to crimes of murder, forgery, or fraudulent bankruptcy, committed before the conclusion of this definitive treaty.

Great Britain, ceded to France — the islands of Tobago, Martinico, and St. Lucia.

Great Britain, ceded to the Batavian republic — colonies of Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, and Surinam; island of Curaçoa.

The Virgin islands in the West Indies, appertaining to the Danish, Swedish, Dutch, and French governments, are restored to the same footing as before the commencement of hostilities.

This treaty was ratified by France on the 18th of April, and by Spain and the Batavian republic, on the 23d of April, 1802.

Peace was proclaimed in London, on Thursday, April the 29th, 1802.

In May, a force under Rear-Admiral Bouvet and General Richepanse, arrived off Guadaloupe, to reduce the island. On the 7th General Richepanse landed at Gohier. His troops were received with acclamations, and Pelagie waited upon the general and assured him of the entire submission of the whole island. This, however, was not the case. The commandant of La Victoire, a Mulatto, named Ignace, refused to surrender. Richepanse sent a division to seize him and his party. Ignace retreated by the opposite gate to that at which the French entered, and with his followers fled into the country.

As the French passed Basse Terre, several shot were fired at them. A colonial officer was sent in a boat, with a letter from Pelagie. As the boat did not return, the French troops were landed under a heavy fire, and on the following morning they

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Annual Register, 1802, p. 378.

carried the rebel position. Some of the Blacks threw themselves into Fort Charles, and some gained the Mornes on the left.

On the 22d, the fort was invested by the French, and evacuated by the enemy, who retreated towards Vieux Fort. The total dispersion of the Negroes immediately followed, and the island was soon reduced entirely under the power of the French.

All the members of the provisional government established on the 21st of October, were sent to France, by orders of General Richepanse: they were put on board the line-of-battle ship Le Fougeux. Most of the officers of colour were also banished the island, and sent to France, as were many inhabitants of the colony, who had taken an active part in the revolt.

On the 17th of May, the legislative body in Paris passed a decree, re-establishing slavery in the French colonies on the same footing on which it existed previous to the year 1789; and the slave trade and importation of Negroes was ordered to be renewed.

Lord Seaforth, the governor of Barbadoes, "proposed to the assembly of that island, that the murder of a slave, which, according to the Barbadoes law, was compensated by a fine of eleven pounds four shillings sterling, should be made felony. The assembly resented the proposal, and appointed a committee to prepare a message in reply, which should be calculated to repel this insult, and should evince that the house understood its interests and its rights."

From Commissary Sayer's regimental returns, it appears, that of 19,676 European soldiers sent by England to the West Indies in 1796, before March 1802, 17,173 died of the complaints incidental to the climate.

On the 2d of February, Colonel Thomas Hislop was appointed lieutenant-governor of Grenada and its dependencies.

On the 27th of October, John Halkett, Esq., was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the island of Tobago.

Sir W. Young calculated from returns made to the House of Commons, that the loss of slaves upon the passage from Africa to the West Indies, was five per cent.

There were 155 ships in the trade, each ship on the average carrying 260 slaves, of whom 37,235 arrived.

From a return made to an order of the House of Commons, May the 5th, 1806, it appears that the British sugar colonies in 1802, exported 3,463,366 cwt. of sugar, 8,677,381 gallons of rum, 230,158 cwt. of coffee, and 8,799,891 lbs. of cotton. 155,661 cwt. of the coffee was exported from Jamaica.

Upon the 10th of December, an earthquake was felt at Demerara

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Annual Register, 1802, p. 379.
Remarks on the Insurrection in Barbadoes, London, 1816, p. 1.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 29, 30. 32, 33. 75. 218.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerara, p. 200.

and Essequibo: by its not being felt at Berbice it was supposed to have come in a south-west direction.

On the 29th of June, William Fullarton, Esq., Brigadier-General Thomas Picton, and Samuel Wood, Esq., captain of the royal navy, were appointed commissioners for executing the office of governor and commander-in-chief in and over the island of Trinidad.

On the 27th of September, Colonel Prevost was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of Dominica.

In September some ships were sent from Martinico to the coast of Terra Firma, with 250 Negroes and Mulattoes of both sexes; a great number of these were under twenty years of age, and almost all the males were tradesmen. All these had been kept under confinement by the English, either by the right of war, or on account of the dangerous opinions which they manifested. On the restitution of Martinico, the prefect charged with taking possession of the island shipped them off, but the Spanish authorities would not receive the unmanageable cargo.

The legislature at Dominica passed an act for building a church in that island.

The secretary and register's office at Dominica was destroyed by fire.

The Jamaica report returns the following number of Negroes, 307,199; imported 8131, exported 2554.

The population of Trinidad consisted of 2261 Whites, 5275 free people of colour, 19,709 slaves, 1232 Indians; total 28,477.

The population of St. Christopher's was computed at 4500 Whites, 25,000 Negro slaves, and 500 free people of colour.

The French ships, the Tourville and Zéle, the corvette Utile, and schooner Adelaide, arrived at Porto Cavello, from St. Domingo, on the 5th of July, 1802.

In the space of twenty-four hours there died of their crews, 161 persons, that is, from the Tourville, 106, the Zéle, 33, the Utile 10, and 12 from the Adelaide. The squadron left the port without having accomplished the object of their mission. Depon says, that 20,000 dollars would drain the stagnant water, and render Porto Cavello as healthy as any other port of Terra Firma.

The eighth West India regiment mutinied in Dominica, and were in possession of the Cabaretas, and from the lower fort fired at his Majesty's ship Magnificent, then at anchor in Prince Rupert's Bay. On the 10th of April, at day-break, the marines of that ship were landed under the command of Lieutenants Lambert, O'Neale, and Hawkins. Five hundred of the rebels advanced towards the beach; the marines took post on a hill, and ex-

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Annual Register, 1802, p. 89.
Depon's South America, vol. i. p. 158.; vol. ii. p. 211.
Official Papers presented to the House of Commons, 1815.
Stephen's Defence of the Register Bill, Appendix.
Political Account of Trinidad, London, 1807. Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 47.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 57.

changed some shots with them, and gave refuge to several officers who escaped from the rebels.

The colonial militia joined; and next day the marines were ordered to Grand Ance, to protect the inhabitants. Several flags of truce passed between General Johnstone and the fort, and on the 12th, the Royal Scotch and 68th regiment, and the marines, marched into the fort. The black troops were drawn up with three of their officers as prisoners, and presented arms to the troops. General Johnstone was obeyed by them in his orders to shoulder, order, and ground their arms; but on being commanded to step three paces in front, the cry was, " No!" and they resumed their arms, and fired a volley. This was returned, and followed by a charge of bayonets, which broke their ranks. The mutineers were driven over the precipice, where they were exposed to a fire of grape and cannister from the Magnificent. Various reasons were assigned as the cause of this mutiny, which General Johnstone could best explain.

The Dutch settlement of Demerara was delivered up in December, according to the peace of Amiens, immediately upon the departure of the troops in British pay. The Dutch governor, Meertens, in consequence of the sickness of the Batavian troops, directed that the burgher militia, or inhabitants of Stabroek and the adjoining towns, should mount guard, and do the night duty. They were mostly British, and many, after the first week, were confined to their beds, from not being accustomed to this course of life. Without a certificate from their doctors of their incapability to do duty, the fine for non-attendance on guard or parade was a joe (1*l.* 16*s.*), for the second offence the offender was confined, and if it occurred more than twice successively, he was to be banished the colony.

1803.

" The island of Cuba exported in 1803, including the contraband, 42,670 arrobas of wax. The price of an arroba then amounted to twenty or twenty-one piastres, but the mean price in time of peace, is only fifteen piastres, or seventy-five livres tournois.

" The neighbourhood of the sugar plantations is very prejudicial to the bees. These insects are so exceedingly greedy of honey, that they drown themselves in the juice of the cane, which puts them into a state of inaction and intoxication when they drink to excess."

Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 279.
Humboldt's New Spain, B. 4. C. 10.

The ratification of the treaty of peace upon paper, and the breach of it in fact, were simultaneous upon the part of France. England again unsheathed the sword.

> "Dread was the strife, for mighty was the foe,
> Who sought with his whole strength her overthrow;
> Alone in the disastrous hour
> Britain stood firm, and braved his power,
> Alone she fought the battles of mankind;
> Her Red Cross floated on the waves unfurled,
> Offering redemption to the groaning world."

At day-light on the 21st of June, the expedition for the attack of St. Lucia, under the command of Commodore Hood and General Grinfield, was off the north end of that island. In the course of the day, the greater part of the troops were disembarked in Choque bay; about half past five, the outposts of the enemy were driven in, the town of Castries was taken, and a summons sent to the French commander, Brigadier Nogues. Upon the receipt of his refusal, it was determined upon by the British commanders, that the Morne Fortunée should be stormed the following morning at four o'clock, which was accordingly done, and the place carried in about half an hour. General Grinfield, in his dispatch, says, "that notwithstanding the spirited resistance of the French, yet no sooner were the works carried by assault, and the opposition no longer existed, than every idea of animosity appeared to cease; and not a French soldier was either killed or wounded." The island was in consequence unconditionally restored to the British government.

The English loss was less than could have been expected.

From St. Lucia, the British commanders proceeded to Tobago, where they arrived upon the 30th of June. The French general, Berthier, being apprised of the numbers of the British, and of what had happened at St. Lucia, agreed to capitulate the same day. The garrison marched out with the honours of war, and were to be sent back to France.

Copy of a Letter from Commodore Hood, to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. Dated on board the Centaur, in Choc Bay, St. Lucia, 22d of June, 1803.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that, on my arrival at Barbadoes on the 17th, late in the evening, having consulted Lieutenant-General Grinfield, with respect to the intended cooperations of the army and navy, I instantly took measures to prevent further supplies being thrown into St. Lucia, (the ships

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Carmen Triumphale.
Annual Register, p. 282.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 298.
Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 60.

on this service under the orders of Captain O'Bryen, of the Emerald, made some captures of trading vessels,) and every disposition was settled for embarking the troops and light artillery on board the ships of war, and the necessary stores, &c., in small vessels for the expedition: by great exertions, the whole was effected on the 20th, and the arrangements completed. The lieutenant-general having embarked with the troops, I put to sea with the ships named in the margin; was joined the next morning by the Emerald and Osprey, having Brigadier-General Prevost on board, and were all anchored by eleven o'clock in this bay.

"There being a strong breeze, the boats of the squadron had a heavy pull with the first division of the army, composed of the 2d battalion of the royals, and two field pieces, under the command of Brigadier-General Brereton, but, by the great energy and excellent disposition made by Captain Hallowell, were landed in good order about 2 P.M.; and by the perseverance of every officer and man employed in landing the remainder of the troops, the lieutenant-general was enabled to make an early arrangement for an attack on that very important and strong post Morne Fortunée, where the force of the enemy was assembled, which, on the commandant refusing to give up when summoned, was ordered to be attacked with that decision and promptitude which has always been the characteristic mark of Lieutenant-General Grinfield, and carried by storm at half-past four this morning, with the superior bravery which has ever distinguished the British soldier. This placed the colony completely in our possession.

"To Captain Hallowell's merit it is impossible for me to give additional encomium, as it is so generally known; but I must beg leave to say, on this expedition, his activity could not be exceeded; and, by his friendly advice, I have obtained the most effectual aid to this service, for which he has been a volunteer, and after the final disembarkation, proceeded on with the seamen to co-operate with the army. The marines of the squadron, by desire of the lieutenant-general, were landed, and ordered to take post near Gros Islet, to prevent supplies being thrown into Pigeon Island, which, on the fall of Morne Fortunée, was delivered up.

"We are already occupied in reimbarking troops and other necessary service for future operations.

"Captain Littlehales (of this ship) is charged with the dispatch, whose assiduity and attention I with much satisfaction acknowledge; he will be able to give their lordships any further information.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"SAMUEL HOOD."

Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 60.

" Sir, " H. M. S. Centaur, Demerary, 17th September, 1803.

" The commanders-in-chief of the land and sea forces of His Britannic Majesty being fully assured of their decided superiority to the forces of the Bátavian republic in these colonies, and certain of being able to prevent succours being thrown in, consider themselves as authorized to require the immediate surrender of the colonies of Demerary, Essequibo, and Berbice, to the forces under their command. With the view, therefore, to prevent unnecessary effusion of blood, or the mischief which must ensue to the colonies, should the troops be under the necessity of making good the landing, and the ships to enforce a passage, the commanders-in-chief have thought it right to trouble your excellency with this summons; and trusting, that from your excellency's regard for the colonies, the certainty of not being able to resist, and for the preservation of individual property, you will have no hesitation in acceding to the terms herewith transmitted. The officers who will have the honour to deliver this to your excellency have orders to wait one hour for your answer.

" We have the honour to be, &c.

" William Grinfield.
" Samuel Hood."

" To his Excellency the Governor of the colonies of Demerary, Essequibo, and Berbice."

Terms proposed by Lieutenant-General William Grinfield, and Commodore Sir Samuel Hood, for the Surrender to the British Government of the Colonies of Demerary, Essequibo, and Berbice.

" Art. 1. The colonies of Demerary, Essequibo, and Berbice, with their dependencies, to be surrendered within twenty-four hours, to the arms and protection of the British government.

" 2. The fort of William Frederick is to be taken possession of at —— by the troops of the British government.

" 3. The garrison in these colonies are to be and to remain prisoners of war until released or exchanged, and to deliver their arms, accoutrements, and ammunition to the person appointed to receive them. They will be allowed all the usual honours of war; the officers to retain and wear their swords, and to have their paroles; and the officers and men their clothing and baggage.

" 4. The public stores, storehouses, land and revenues, ships and vessels, belonging to the Batavian republic, are to surrender to the British government.

" 5. The private property, as well on shore as afloat, of all persons who were bonâ fide proprietors at the time the said possessions were restored by his Majesty to the Batavian republic, will be respected, and not to be considered as liable to seizure.

Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 502.; vol. xi. p. 57.

" 6. The civil laws of these colonies, as far as regards the property and civil jurisdiction, to remain as they now are until the further pleasure of the King shall be known.

" 7. The council and civil magistrates of the colony, taking the oaths of allegiance to the British government, to remain as they now are, with the exception of such of either, as by their known attachment to the Batavian republic, would endanger the colonies, by their remaining in places of trust and confidence.

" 8. The government and the defence of the colonies belong to the British nation.

" WILLIAM GRINFIELD,
" SAMUEL HOOD."

The Governor's Answer.

" Government House, Demerary,
18th September, 1803.

" GENTLEMEN,

" I have had the honour to receive your excellencies' letter of yesterday's date, requiring the immediate surrender of the colonies of Essequibo, Demerary, and Berbice, on the terms transmitted to me by your excellencies.

" In conformity to the constitution of this colony, I have laid your letter before the court of police, and the commanding officers of the sea and land forces, assembled in a council of war.

" The colony of Berbice being a government entirely distinct from this, I am not competent to answer your excellencies' letter, as far as regards that colony; but in respect to the colonies of Essequibo and Demerary under my government, I, as well as the other members of the combined council of war, have thought it our duty to propose some terms of capitulation, which we have framed on our part, and to which we entreat your excellencies' consideration, as conceiving them best calculated for the interest of these colonies. The same will be laid before your excellencies by a committee from the council of war, consisting of the commander of Essequibo, Mr. Trotz, a member of the court of police, Mr. Kroll, two officers, and the secretary of the colony, which gentlemen are to wait upon your excellencies, and are fully authorized to conclude the capitulation.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" A. MEERTENS,
" Gov.-Gen. of Essequibo and Demerary."

These articles being accepted, the conquerors issued a proclamation, dated 2d of October, 1803. " Whereas by the ~~articles~~ of capitulation proposed to the inhabitants of Demerara, &c. &c., and accepted by them, which places are now in his Majesty's possession,

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 57.

and the inhabitants thereof are become subjects of his Majesty, we have thought fit, by virtue of the powers and authorities in us vested, to publish this proclamation, hereby permitting and allowing, that from and after the publication hereof until his Majesty's pleasure shall be made known, that all his loving subjects may lawfully trade to and from such places as are in his Majesty's possession, subject nevertheless to the same duties, rules, regulations, conditions, restrictions, penalties, and forfeitures, to which the trade to and from his Majesty's colonies, plantations, and islands in the West Indies is or shall be subject by law; but nothing herein contained shall extend to prevent the importations, in American or other neutral bottoms belonging to the subjects of any power in amity with His Britannic Majesty, of provisions, cattle, grain, and wood, of every kind, from the United States of America, so long as the same shall be allowed, in pursuance of and under the terms and conditions of the said articles of capitulation, or any other privileges or exemptions granted by the said articles of capitulation. It is further ordered and declared, that all commodities being of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the aforesaid places, shall be shipped to Great Britain or Ireland, or any British plantation, in British ships navigated according to law; and it is further ordered, that no produce shall be exported in foreign bottoms, except what may be deemed absolutely necessary in return for provisions, and that only to the amount of such provisions.

" By command, (Signed) W. Grinfield.
" Wm. Tatum, Mil. Sec. Sam. Hood."
" John Tracy, Naval Sec."

The total return of prisoners of war in these colonies was 937.

Dispatches from Commodore Hood to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. His Majesty's Ship Centaur, off Demerara, 20th September, 1803.

" Sir,

" Thinking it of the utmost importance to the mercantile interest, the earliest information should be sent of the surrender of this colony, and that of Essequibo, to his Majesty's forces, I beg leave to acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the capitulation was signed on board the Heureux, yesterday morning. In the evening, the Hornet and Netley entered the river, and 200 troops took possession of Fort William Frederick; and this day the colonies surrendered.

" The Hippomenes ship corvette of eighteen guns, the only vessel of the Batavian republic here, is included in the capitulation. I have the honour to be, &c.

" Sam. Hood."

Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 501.

" Sir, " Hornet, Demerary River, September 27th.

" It is with the greatest satisfaction I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that, in concurrence with Lieutenant-General Grinfield, the troops for the expedition to this valuable colony were embarked at Barbadoes on the 31st of August, on board his Majesty's ships Centaur, Chichester, and Alligator, and Brilliant transport, with the Heureux and Netley; also several small vessels, having military stores, &c. We put to sea the next morning; but, from light baffling winds, and a strong north-west current, we did not arrive at our anchorage at the appointed rendezvous, a few leagues to windward of the river, until the evening of the 18th.

" The Netley, Lieutenant Lawrence, was sent forward with Mr. Casey, a gentleman well acquainted with the coast, to endeavour to gain information, and procure a number of colony boats, calculated for our service; and we had the good fortune to find, by the exertion and attention of this officer, with the very useful services of the before-mentioned gentleman, our wishes were fulfilled, and twenty-four boats ready, in three fathoms water, to receive the troops.

" The moment we anchored, a flag of truce was dispatched to the governor of Demerary and Essequibo, with a summons, and orders to wait one hour only.

" The Centaur and Chichester not being able to approach nearer the shore, the troops were early the next morning removed to the small vessels, and all ready in the evening, waiting the event of the flag, which, detained by strong winds, did not return until the following morning, with a deputation of the colony, when terms were agreed on.

" The Hornet, which was lying off the bar, blockading the port, entered the river in the evening, with the Netley and a body of troops, when possession was taken of Fort William Frederick. The Hippomenes, a ship pierced for eighteen guns, fourteen only mounted, belonging to the Batavian republic, and the colonies of Demerary and Essequibo, were given up to us the next day at twelve o'clock.

" The governor not being able to treat for Berbice, our further dispositions and arrangements, on signing the capitulation, were immediately made; and Captain Bland, of the Heureux, with the Alligator and Netley, and Brilliant transport, having on board a detachment of the troops, under Lieutenant-Colonel Nicholson, and the marines of the squadron, were sent against Berbice, the result of which I have the honour to forward herewith.

" And am, Sir, &c.,

" Sir Evan Nepean, Bart." " Sam. Hood."

Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 501.

Captain L. O. Bland, in his Majesty's ship Heureux, was sent to Berbice; and Commodore Sir S. Hood says, "too much praise cannot be given to that officer and Lieutenant-Colonel Nicholson, for their able and judicious conduct." Captain Bland, in his letter of the 26th of September, 1803, states, "I am happy to inform you, that his Majesty's forces are in possession of the valuable colony of Berbice. To give you the first information, I dispatched Major Crosier, of the marines, by land, whose party I landed at the desire of Lieutenant-Colonel Nicholson. The provisional government and court of police sent off their deputies to answer the summons sent them to surrender, and agreed to the capitulation, which I inclose with the summons. The garrison thought proper not to join, nor did they give an answer till we arrived with the British land and sea forces nearly within gunshot of their works. Seeing we were determined, a boat was hurried off to inform us they would surrender if we would wait till next day, which was agreed to, on our being allowed to go into the harbour that night, and take possession of the shipping, which consists of a very fine national schooner, the Serpent, and several merchant ships."

Commodore Hood, when he forwarded the following letter, says, "the judicious manner in which this service was planned, the gallantry and zeal of those officers who executed it, deserve my warmest encomiums; and I beg leave to give them my strongest recommendation to the lords commissioners of the Admiralty."

"Sir, "Blenheim, off Martinico, November 17th, 1803.

"I have the honour to acquaint you, that on the 14th inst. the French privateer schooner L'Harmonie, with a prize, having put into the harbour of Marin, in the bay of St. Ann, Martinico, induced me to suggest a plan for the capture of this vessel, more destructive to commerce than any other which has appeared in these seas, and for this purpose I attempted, against a strong sea breeze and lee current, to beat up from off the Diamond rock, to the place where she lay at anchor. It was not until the 16th in the morning, that I was able to accomplish it, when, having reconnoitred the harbour of Marin, together with the batteries on each side of it, and also one above the town, I determined on the attempt. I therefore ordered sixty seamen belonging to his Majesty's ship under my command, with Lieutenants Cole and Furber, and a detachment of sixty marines of the same ship, under the command of Lieutenants Beatie and Boyd, to carry the enterprize into execution; the former in their boats to attack the privateer, and the latter, at the same time, to endeavour to surprise, or, in any event, to storm Fort Dunkirk, a battery of nine guns on the starboard

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 157.

side of the harbour. It was necessary to do so, to cut off the militia from rendezvousing on Marin Point, which being immediately in the track of coming out, and where doubtless they would have been joined by the troops from the fort, would have much annoyed the boats on their return. The Drake having joined me, and Captain Ferris volunteering his services, I directed him to take the command of the seamen, and to add to them fourteen from the Drake. All things being prepared, the boats, with the seamen, towed by the Drake, and the marines in four boats towed by the Swift, hired cutter, at 11 P.M. proceeded off the mouth of Marin harbour, and by estimating the time it would take for the boats to row up to the privateer, which vessel lay three miles from the entrance of the harbour, both parties set off so timely as to commence the attack at the same instant: and I am happy to add, that about three A. M. on the following morning, by very spirited and judicious attacks, both parties succeeded; the fort was completely surprised, the prisoners, fifteen in number, taken, and sent on board the cutter, the guns were dismounted and spiked, their carriages totally destroyed, and the magazine blown up: the barracks were spared, as a large and ripe field of canes adjoining must have inevitably been destroyed, had they been set fire to.

"The boats with the seamen passed one battery undiscovered, but the privateer was on her guard, and commenced a very heavy fire on them, who, nevertheless in the most prompt and gallant manner, boarded, and, in a few minutes, carried her. Two men were found dead on her deck, and fourteen were wounded. As many of the enemy threw themselves into the sea, many must have been drowned.

"I am sorry to add, that the Blenheim had one man killed and two wounded, and the Drake three wounded, one dangerously.

"The Harmonie was commanded by Citizen Noyer, had eight carriage guns and sixty-six men at the attack, forty-four only of whom were found at the time of surrender. The boats and privateer repassed the fort on the larboard side of the harbour, within musquet shot, but happily escaped from a heavy fire unhurt. The spirited manner in which Captain Ferris led the boats to the attack, and the gallant conduct of Lieutenants Cole and Furber, the petty officers and men on the occasion, merit my warmest praise; nor can I do too much justice to the conduct of Lieutenant Beatie, commanding the detachment of royal marines, Lieutenant Boyd, the non-commissioned officers and privates, who, in the most soldier-like manner, after being challenged and fired upon by two sentinels, and perfectly ignorant of the nature and number of the troops they had to contend with, pushed directly into the fort with fixed bayonets, when the enemy cried for quarter. By the silence with which

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 157.

the battery was carried, 100 militia of the fort of St. Ann were cut off from the point of rendezvous, and thus the place, to answer all our purposes, secured without the loss of a man.

"Enclosed is an account of the guns rendered useless, and stores destroyed at Fort Dunkirk.

"I have the honour, &c.,

"THOMAS GRAVES."

"Six twenty-four pounders and eighteen three pounders, and all their ammunition."

"SIR, "Blenheim, off Martinico, September 16, 1803.

"Yesterday, at two P.M., I discovered a small schooner privateer, apparently just returned from her cruise, and endeavouring to get into Port Royal. It being nearly calm, I directed Lieutenant Furber, of his Majesty's ship Blenheim, under my command, to take the pinnace, and Lieutenant Campbell the barge, and to cut her off. She was rowing with her sweeps, but the boats, nevertheless, came up with her in about an hour and a half, and, in a most spirited manner, under the fire of grape and musquetry, boarded and carried her.

"I am happy to add that no lives were lost; the enemy had one man wounded; she is called the Fortunée, mounts two carriage guns, and had twenty-nine men on board.

"I am, &c.,

"Commodore Hood." "THOMAS GRAVES."

"SIR, "His Majesty's sloop Osprey, off Martinico, October 31, 1803.

"I beg leave to acquaint you, that on the 26th inst. I discovered a supicious sail under the land of Trinidad, and immediately chased; but, on arriving within about four miles of her, it fell calm, and as I was convinced she was an enemy's privateer, from the number of sweeps she was rowing, and having no chance of coming up with her in the Osprey, I sent three boats to attack her, under the command of Lieutenant Robert Henderson. The cutter in which he was, rowing much faster than the other boats, he, without waiting to be joined by them, in the most brave and determined manner, and under a heavy fire from the guns and musquetry of the schooner, boarded and captured the French schooner privateer Le Resource, mounting four four-pounders, and having on board forty-three men, two of whom were killed and twelve wounded. Lieutenant Henderson, with three seamen, are slightly wounded, and one dangerously; the cutter had only seventeen men in her, who all behaved with the utmost bravery. I have to inform you that having put Lieutenant Collier, and sixteen men on board the prize, he, the

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 153.

next day, chased and captured La Mimi, French schooner privateer, of one gun and twenty-one men.

"I am, &c.

"Commodore Hood." "GEORGE YOUNGHUSBAND."

Commodore Hood, in his letter to the Admiralty, of the 6th of November, says, "the capture of two more of the enemy's privateers, is set forth in a letter from Captain Younghusband, of the Osprey. The brave and handsome conduct of Lieutenant Henderson, and those in the boats under his command, is truly meritorious; and I trust such display of the gallantry of our officers and men, will soon make these Piccaroons repent their temerity. On the 26th ult. between Tobago and Grenada, the Centaur, after a chase of seven hours, captured the Vigilante schooner privateer, of two guns and forty men, well armed with musquetry: the capture of this vessel is particularly fortunate, as she has, from her superior sailing and management, done much injury to the trade. I have also the satisfaction to acquaint you of the recapture of the brig Earl St. Vincent from Dublin, bound to Barbadoes, and a Swedish schooner, by his Majesty's sloop St. Lucia: they had been captured three days before by L'Harmonie, privateer of Martinico, and who only escaped the vigilance of Captain Shipley, by throwing her guns overboard and sawing down her gunwales.

"I have the honour to be, &c.,

"SAMUEL HOOD."

H. M. S. Centaur, off Martinico,
26th November, 1803.

"SIR,

"Early this morning, as the Centaur was passing the Cape de Salines, on the island of Martinico, she was fired at, and several shot exchanged in passing. I immediately directed Captain Maxwell to stand on far enough, that by tacking we could fetch into Petite Ance d'Arlette, where we anchored, and landed the greater part of the marines, under Captain Crozier, and forty seamen, commanded by Lieutenants Maurice and Ayscough, to destroy it. On the first alarm, the national guard had assembled to aid fourteen cannoniers of the marine artillery stationed in the battery; but by the rapid and active movements of the officers and men on this service, the enemy had not time to arrange themselves in defence of the narrow and steep path to the eminence, where was planted a brass two-pounder, and on the approach of our men, flew to the Morne, and so dispersed themselves in the thick woods, that only one cannonier fell into our hands. The battery, mounting six twenty-four pounders, was completely destroyed, and the guns, &c. thrown over the precipice; but, unfortunately, in the explosion

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 155.

of the magazine a little too soon, one seaman was killed. Lieutenant Maurice, 1st of the Centaur, Captain Crosier, and Lieutenant Walker of the marines, with six men wounded; but only one private marine badly. On drawing near the bay of Point d'Arlette, between the Grande and Petite Ance of that name, we discovered a battery of three guns (two proved to be forty-two pounders, the other a thirty-two pounder), and people lying down. However, the ship was anchored in a position to flank it, had they thought proper to annoy us, and Lieutenant Domett, with Lieutenant M'Laughlin, of the marines, threw the guns over the cliff, and burnt and destroyed the carriages, barracks, and ammunition, most perfectly, the people having abandoned it on their approach. From this I promise myself much aid to the blockading ships, should the enemy send out a reinforcement, and also very convenient for anchoring.

"I have the honour to be,

"To the Admiralty." "Samuel Hood."

In his letter of the 20th of November, the commodore reports that since his last return, he had captured thirty-nine vessels, six of which were vessels of war.

On the 2d of December, Sir Samuel Hood reports his taking La Sophie schooner, of eight guns and forty-six men, off Martinico, and retaking her prize, a sloop which she had cut out of Courland Bay, Tobago: and that Lieutenant Domett, in the Vigilant tender, with the Sarah advice boat, burnt a schooner in Ance de Serron, of seventy tons, and destroyed the battery, Chateau Margot, of three eighteen pounders, without any loss on our part. A party of the enemy came down and fired on them, of which they killed one man and wounded some others."

The Caracol passage, or eastern entrance to the harbour of Cape François, having afforded the French the means of obtaining refreshments, and protracted the blockade, Sir J. Duckworth ordered Captain Loring, the senior officer, to place a frigate at the entrance of Manchineal bay. Captain Mudge in the Blanche was ordered there, and in less than a month destroyed, with the boats of that ship, twenty-four sail of small vessels.

On November the 4th, Captain Mudge reports, that Mr. John Smith, master's mate, "whose general good conduct" he says, "it is impossible for me to find words to express," with the Honourable Fred. Berkley, in the launch, who "behaved nobly," after an action of ten minutes, took an armed schooner with one long nine pounder and thirty men. The French had one killed and five wounded, the English one killed and two wounded.

The next day Lieutenant Lake, of the same ship, in the cutter,

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. pp 158. 248, Sir J. Duckworth's Letter.

and Lieutenant Nichols of the marines, in the barge, cut out from under the guns of Monte Christi (four twenty-four pounders and three field pieces), a cutter armed with two four pounders and six swivels, laden with fifty-two bullocks. The English had two killed and two wounded, the French six wounded.

Sir John Duckworth, in his dispatch, dated December the 23d, reports, that since his return made in November, the squadron under his command had taken thirty-seven sail, three of them forty gun frigates, and one a corvette, and destroyed thirty sail of small craft.

The number of Methodists in society, in Dominica, in April, was about 700. In the country the Negroes built little places of worship at their own expence. One of the missionaries resided at Roseau, the other at Prince Rupert's; they changed stations about once a month. On the 7th of June they had 900 in society.

Governor Prevost gave them a grant of an acre of crown land, to build a chapel on at Prince Rupert's. One of the missionaries says, "the people are crying out on every hand for mercy, many of them can already rejoice in God their Saviour, and others are so earnestly seeking the same salvation, that they will not let us rest in our beds at night, but they come and beg us to get up, and either help them to praise God, or else to pray to him for mercy for them. I never before, wherever I have been, saw so great a prospect of good. We change with each other every fortnight, on account of the place being so sickly."

The Methodists at Basse Terre, St. Christopher's, enlarged their chapel. The Missionary said, in May, "it now contains 2800 square feet, and what is much better, is generally full of people, and sometimes crowded. We have about thirty-four Whites in society, and I view them as a precious seed of a future harvest."

In the Virgin islands the Methodists had 2070 Blacks and thirty-eight Whites in society.

In February, Mr. Thomas Richardson, a Methodist missionary, made the following report of the state of that sect in Antigua:

"The society in Antigua consists of about 4000 Blacks and Mulattoes, including a very small number of Whites. In the congregations in the towns the proportion of Whites is not more than one to forty. In St. John's we have a commodious chapel, which is generally crowded with hearers. In Purham, distant about eight miles, we have another, which is well attended; and also a dwelling house, with other conveniencies for the preacher. At Willoughby, eight miles from Purham and fifteen from St. John's, they are going to build a chapel. Besides these places of worship, the preachers get large congregations in Negro houses, in all parts of the country; but they are obliged to lodge and board at their own expence.

Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 247.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 360. 362. 363.; vol. iii. pp. 69. 126.

There are in the island six or eight local preachers, besides several coloured women, who are very useful and possess considerable abilities for prayer and exhortation. The women in St. John's hold public meetings every week. I once got into a corner where they could not see me, and was astonished at their eloquence and unction. Their abilities far exceed those of most of the women I have heard speak or pray in England; and, what is still better, they are patterns of genuine piety."

At Nevis, in May this year, the Methodists had 1211 members in society, of these eleven only were Whites.

Three local preachers of the Methodist society in Jamaica, applied at the sessions on the 4th of January, to be qualified according to law: the chief magistrate dismissed them, and at the same time observed, "that they ought to be committed for daring to address the court." One of these, a Mr. Williams, was the next day "found guilty both of singing and praying." Singing was declared to mean preaching, and Mr. Williams was committed to the workhouse, and sentenced to hard labour for one month.

In February, another preacher of that persuasion, who had an English licence, according to the act of toleration, was committed to prison for preaching; his name was Campbell; he was tried, found guilty, and sent to the workhouse. In May, however, he procured a licence in Kingston, went to Morant Bay, and petitioned the magistrates for a licence for a house to preach in. He received for answer, that "the magistrates are unanimously resolved to grant no licences." Not content with this refusal, they prosecuted Mr. Campbell and Mr. Williams as possessors and occupiers of the meeting-house, at the time of their being prosecuted for preaching. At this time there was no rector or curate in the place, so that the whole parish was destitute of public worship. Mr. Campbell embarked for England as soon as he could, and concealed himself during the interim.

Notwithstanding these impediments, the Methodists increased; in July there were upwards of 500 in Kingston.

The Dutch troops at Berbice mutinied, and obliged their commandant, Colonel Matthias, to evacuate Fort St. Andrew, and take possession of the government-house, which was fortified. From this post he was also obliged to retreat precipitately to York Redoubt, on the opposite side of the river. Here he was reinforced by 100 men from Demerara, under the command of Major Van Hamers.

The mutineers hoisted English colours at the fort, with a piece of beef on the head of the staff, and sent a deputation to an English planter, to request that he would take the government of the colony, and that they would enter into the British service, and defend the colony until troops arrived from Barbadoes. These offers were rejected.

Coke's West Indies, vol. i. pp. 447. 450. 454.; vol. iii. p. 30.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerara, p. 184.

On the 8th of May, at five A.M., the troops from York Redoubt embarked on board the Serpent, Dutch schooner of war, and made sail to attack the mutineers on the opposite side of the river. In tacking too close in shore, she got aground on the west side of the river, where she remained until the tide floated her off, when she was joined by two schooners, with troops from the Surinam vessels. During the whole day a fire was kept up between the two forts, but without doing any harm to either party. At four P.M. the vessels weighed again, and effected a landing above New Amsterdam.

The insurgents evacuated the government-house, and retreated across the Canje, followed by the troops, who fell into an ambush in a field of cotton, from which they were obliged to retreat, with several wounded and one killed.

On the 10th of May, forty canoes, full of Indians, arrived at New Amsterdam, to assist the government against the mutineers. Their only covering was a piece of blue India salempores, except their captains, who were distinguished by an European suit of clothes, and a staff of office. Their bows were slung at their backs, and their quivers filled with poisoned arrows. In their hands they carried a club about two feet long, larger at one end than the other, with sharp edges, and the wood being of the hardest kind, one blow well placed would kill a man on the spot. In the evening, several of the insurgents from the fort surrendered themselves prisoners, and a proposition was sent to surrender the fort on conditions, which were however refused. Just as the troops were forming for the attack, another courier arrived, to say that the mutineers would give themselves up as prisoners, and stand their trials by court-martial; this was agreed to, and upwards of 300 men surrendered, five of whom were found guilty and shot. Their captain was sent to Holland, where he was tried and executed. The Indian auxiliaries were gratified by presents of cutlery, hospitably entertained, and dismissed.

Proclamation of the French Commissioner to the People of Louisiana.

"People of Louisiana,

"The mission which has made me traverse the ocean for 2500 leagues, and placed me in the midst of you — this mission, on which I have for so long a time built so many high hopes, and so many wishes for your happiness, is now changed; that mission of which I am at this moment the minister and executor is less pleasing, though equally flattering to me, inasmuch as it supplies me with a consolation, derived from the belief that it will be generally more advantageous to you.

"In virtue of their power and authority, the commissioners of

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 157.

His Catholic Majesty have surrendered to me this country, and you every where see the unfurled standard of the French republic, and hear the repeated roar of her cannon, announcing to you that on this day she resigns her dominion over those regions. People of Louisiana, this event will immediately take place, for I am on the eve of transmitting this country to the commissioners of the United States, who are charged to take possession of it in the name of their government. Their arrival I momentarily expect.

"The approaches of a war which commenced under such bloody and terrible auspices, and which menaced the four quarters of the globe, induced the French government to turn its attention and its cares to these regions. Motives of prudence and humanity uniting with a more enlarged and solid policy — motives, in a word, worthy of the genius of that power which balances the great destinies of nations, have given a new direction to the beneficent intentions of France, and have determined her to cede Louisiana to the United States of America. You thus become, people of Louisiana, the interesting pledge of a friendship between two republics, which cannot fail of increasing, and becoming every day more secure and more strong — a pledge which will powerfully contribute to their common repose and their common prosperity. The third article of the treaty will not escape your notice: it is there said, 'The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States; and in the mean time they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and the religion which they profess.

"The epoch will soon arrive in which you will choose for yourselves a form of government, which, while it is conformable to the sacred principles of the social compact of the federal union, will be adapted to your manners, to your necessities, to your climate, to your customs, soil, and local circumstances. There never has been, nor ever can be, a metropolis without a colonial monopoly more or less exclusive; on the contrary, on the part of the United States, you have a right to expect a liberty of exportation without limits, and that the privileges of importation will accord with your public wants and internal industry. From a happy concurrence you will be able to buy cheaply, and sell at high rates, and will besides reap immense advantages from a place of deposit. The Mississippi, the Nile of America, borders not on deserts of burning sand, but plains more fertile and extensive than any known in the new world, and will, at the quays of this new Alexandria, be covered with thousands of vessels from all nations.

"Among these vessels, I trust, people of Louisiana, you will

Annual Register, 1804, p. 157.

always distinguish with complaisance the French flag, and its sight will never cease to gladden your heart. Such is our firm hope. I formally avow it in the name of my country and its government. Bonaparte, in stipulating by the 7th article of the treaty, that the French shall be admitted, during twelve years, to carry on commerce with your shores, on the same conditions, and without paying other duties than the citizens of the United States, has wished to renew and perpetuate the ties which unite the French of Louisiana and the Frenchmen of Europe; new strength will be given to the relations already subsisting between these inhabitants of the two continents.

"At New Orleans, the 8th Frimaire, year 12 of the French republic. (Nov. 30th, 1803.)

(Signed) "LAUSSAT."

On the 10th of September, Admiral Duckworth, in his letter from Port Royal, Jamaica, forwards Captain Bissell's report of the destruction of La Mutine brig, wherein he says, "it appears a superior degree of professional abilities, with great gallantry, were displayed, and I trust will be honoured with their lordships' protection."

"Racoon, off the east end of Jamaica,
August 20, 1803.

"SIR,

"Upon receiving the intimation that the French privateers, which were long since supposed to have been fitting out in the ports of Cuba, had probably put to sea, I worked up along shore from Lucca to the east end of Jamaica, to see the coast clear, and then crossed over to St. Jago de la Cuba, where I saw four French schooners at anchor, apparently armed. I of course watched the port very narrowly; and in a few days I fell in with three of them, at daylight in the morning, two of which I captured after tedious chases, from their separating on different courses, and the other I drove on shore in a small bay, where she was inevitably lost.

"On Wednesday the 17th, at one P. M., I observed a brig coming along shore, which soon after hauled her wind to speak a schooner which had been avoiding us all day. At three they bore up together, under all sail, with a strong breeze. I stood off until certain of fetching them, and then made sail in shore, keeping within half a mile of the shore, under a press of sail. At twenty minutes past four she fired her broadside at us, and attempted to cross our hawse, which I was fortunate enough to prevent; for I ordered the helm to be put hard-a-port to board her, though going eight knots at the time, and fired a broadside at her, which, from being nearly aboard each other, brought down his studding-sails, top-sails, &c. He then luffed up, and ran on shore on the rocks in a small bay, and struck his colours. To avoid a similar fate, I was compelled to heave in stays; and when we wore round, our stern was nearly in the breakers.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 239. Gazette Letters.

In this position we fired our opposite broadside to effect her destruction. In about half an hour she hoisted her ensign again, and I made several short tacks near her, firing upon her in passing. Towards sunset, her main mast went over the side, and she fell on her beam ends. At this moment, Mr. John Thompson, the master, asked my permission to go with a few picked men, and endeavour to burn her, an enterprize it would have been unjustifiable to admit of undertaking, from her having landed boats full of armed men, and lined the shores; but the gallantry of the master could not fail of exciting my admiration, and will, I am sure, meet your approbation. I watched the brig all night, and in the morning her masts were all overboard, and she lay a perfect wreck full of water. I have since learned her name is La Mutine national brig, carrying eighteen long eighteen pounders, and was full of men, from Port-au-Paix, bound to St. Jago; but I have not been able to obtain the name of her captain.

" I regret that I was not able to secure to the service so fine a vessel as La Mutine appeared to be; but under the circumstances of having the two lieutenants and forty-two men absent in prizes out of this sloop's company, you will, I trust, feel satisfied that no effort was left untried, and that Mr. Thompson, the master, and the remaining part of the crew, have performed their duty on this occasion with credit. The schooner which was in company made her escape, notwithstanding the endeavour of Lieutenant Wright in charge of one of the prizes, who used all possible means to disable her.

" I am, Sir, &c.

" Sir J. T. Duckworth." " AUSTIN BISSELL."

Sir John Duckworth, in his letter of the 24th of October, from Port Royal, states, " the accompanying letter from Captain Bissell, of the Racoon, exhibits fresh marks of his gallantry and professional ability, which I am confident will secure him the honour of their lordships' notice and protection."

" Racoon, Port Royal Harbour, Jamaica,
October 20, 1803.

" SIR,

" I beg leave to inform you, that in the afternoon of the 13th of October, when standing in for the coast of Cuba, I observed several vessels to windward coming close along shore, all of whom hauled in towards Cumberland harbour before sunset. Having heard of the evacuation of Port-au-Prince, I anchored in a small bay, in expectation of seeing them come past us in the night. Daylight of the 14th discovered to us nine or ten sail a few miles to windward of us, nearly becalmed. I got under weigh with a fine land wind, and chased them at half past six. A brig, schooner, and cutter (full of men) hoisted French colours, and fired guns to windward. The

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 240. Gazette Letters.

brig attempted to get in shore of us, while the other two, with the assistance of their sweeps and boats, endeavoured to join her. The land breeze, however, carried me within gun-shot of the brig, and after firing a broadside or two at her, she struck. I had only time to send an officer and a small party of men, to secure her, before my attention was called to the schooner and cutter, who had by this time got nearly within gunshot, and were firing at us. Calms and baffling airs prevented me from getting nearer to them till ten o'clock, when the sea-breeze set in. At eleven, they bore up together, evidently with a determination to board us, the cutter steering for our bows, and the schooner hauling out to pass astern. I shortened sail to receive them, keeping the brig under sufficient command to counteract their design, and when within pistol shot, I fired a broadside at the cutter, which was as speedily returned with long guns and muskets, then wore round and fired the other into the schooner, and so on alternately keeping up a running fight, and preventing either of them from raking us. This kind of engaging lasted more than an hour, both schooner and cutter keeping up an incessant fire of musketry, nor was it until the cutter was literally beaten to a wreck, and had many men killed, that she struck her colours. The schooner, seeing her companion fall, made off under all sail. Lieutenant Lawrence took possession of the cutter with peculiar alacrity; and I then made sail after the schooner, with a fresh breeze. At one P. M. I again got within gunshot of her; and after firing a few shot, she surrendered without further resistance. After gaining possession of the schooner, I chased another brig (which proved to be an American), then stood in shore to rejoin the brig I had taken in the morning; but had the mortification to find, that while I was engaging the schooner and cutter, they had overpowered the officer, and had run her on shore on the rocks, where they had all landed with their arms. I have, however, got all my men back safe. The brig was called La Petite Fille national gun-brig, commanded by M. Piquet, lieutenant de vaisseau, and carrying four long guns and many swivels, with upwards of seventy troops. The two latter were also national vessels, and had on board twenty-two officers. The commanders of these vessels have since told me, that they were apprised of our being on the coast, and that they had planned their mode of attack in Cumberland harbour, having determined on boarding us. Their loss is about forty killed and wounded. I feel great pleasure in informing you, that I had not a single man killed; the only person hurt was Mr. J. Thompson, the master, who received a violent contusion in the early part of the business, which deprived me of the further services of a truly brave meritorious officer. The active conduct of Lieutenant Lawrence throughout the day has fully established the character you gave him with his commission. From the perfect satisfaction the crew

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 240. Gazette Letters.

had given me on former occasions, and their steady and resolute behaviour on this, I have no doubt, if the three vessels had succeeded in boarding (which, had the calm continued, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible to prevent) they would have met with a resistance worthy of British seamen, and that they would have had to boast of a very dear-bought conquest. The damage the Racoon has sustained is immaterial, being principally in her sails; but the very disabled state of the prizes, and having expended nearly all the shot on board, will, I hope, plead my excuse for returning to port before I was regularly recalled.

"I have the honour, &c.

"AUSTIN BISSELL."

"To Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B."

On the 28th of April, the inhabitants of Trinidad presented their governor, Colonel Picton, with a sword, upon his resigning the government of that island; they also sent an address to the King, praying him not to accept of their governor's resignation.

Upon the 12th of July, another party in Trinidad presented an address to Colonel Fullarton, in which they assert, that General Picton's proclamation of the 27th of April is repugnant to justice, and inimical to the peace and welfare of the colony; and that his and the council's resolution of the 6th of June was a direct violation of his Majesty's commands. This address was signed by 205 Englishmen.

Upon the 16th of September, Captain Graves, of his Majesty's ship Blenheim, off Martinico, sent the pinnace and barge belonging to that ship, with Lieutenants Furber and Campbell, after a privateer schooner, which they succeeded in carrying by boarding. The French had one man wounded. She had two guns and twenty-nine men on board, and was called La Fortunée.

A conspiracy among the Blacks at Kingston, in Jamaica, was discovered in time to save the lives of the inhabitants. Upon the 22d of June, two of the ringleaders were executed, and numbers taken up.

An expedition was sent from Jamaica against Curaçoa, which returned unsuccessful in March. Eight hundred marines and sailors were landed, and took possession of all the island but Fort Republican. They were unprovided with artillery and unable to storm the fort. The men were reimbarked, and a squadron left to blockade the port.[1]

Upon the 5th of September, his Majesty's ship Emerald fell

Political Account of Trinidad. London, 1807.
Annual Register, 1803. 1804. p. 3. Official Letter.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 412.

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[1] Captain Nourse, in his Majesty's sloop Cyane, captured, off Barbadoes, after a chase of five hours, La Bellone, French privateer, of eight guns and eighty-four men. *Naval Chronicle, Gazette Letters*, vol. xi. p. 254.

in with thirteen armed schooners, with 700 troops from Guadaloupe, destined to attempt the destruction of the dock-yard at Antigua. She captured three of them, and drove the rest back under their own batteries.

From a return made to the House of Commons, May the 6th, 1806, it appears, that Great Britain imported from the British West Indies this year 152,610 cwt. of coffee, and 212,300 hhds. of sugar, of which 117,936 cwt. of coffee, and 87,300 hhds. of sugar, came from Jamaica.

Sir William Young says, " The very high prices of sugar in the European market for four years preceding, and highest in 1798, excited speculations of extending the sugar plantations in Jamaica, and other islands; and this, aided with *the new and more productive Bourbon cane*, accounts for the increase of sugar from Jamaica, progressive to 1803."

Five individuals at Margarita were charged with the pearl fisheries, established in the island of Coche, an island in the middle of the channel, between Margarita and the main: many turtles, and an immense quantity of fish, are caught and salted there. The Indians of Margarita are obliged to work at the fisheries during three months of the year, at the low wages of one real each per day, and bread of Indian meal is all that is supplied them.

All that the provinces of Cumana, Margarita, and Guiana, sent to Puerto Rico, or received thence, was transported by a small schooner, which passed each month from Puerto Rico to Guayra, to convey the letters which the Spanish packet leaves at Puerto Rico, in passing to the Havaña.

In the report of the Commissioners of Naval Inquiry it is stated, " that certain possessions belonging to the crown, under the superintendance of the naval store-keeper at Jamaica, of which there appears to have been kept a very imperfect account," have been brought to their notice; and they say, " what records of crown lands there may be preserved at the other stations abroad, under the naval departments of the state, we have not had an opportunity of knowing," but they think it right to draw the public attention to the subject.

Imports of Slaves to British West Indies, from Return to the House of Commons, April 5th, 1805.—*Medium of Two Years.*

	Imports.	Exports.
Jamaica	7662	2402
Barbadoes	1050	28
Antigua	436	100

Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 16. 17.
Depon's South America, vol. ii. pp. 38. 272. Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 142.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 5.

	Imports.	Exports.
St. Kitt's	971	124
Nevis, &c.	228	—
Tortola	438	259
Dominica	550	34
Grenada	1097	2
St. Vincent's	1540	—
Tobago	172	—
Bahamas	2523	2230
Trinidad	4616	33
To conquered colonies	7164	—
Total slave trade	28,355	5212

The number of slaves in Jamaica are reported to be 308,668; imported 7,846, exported 2,036.

Captain Ross, of his Majesty's ship Desirée, reports on the 19th of August, that he sent Lieutenant Canning, with the boats, into Monte Christi roads, after five schooners and a sloop, which service Captain Ross says "he performed with credit, under a heavy fire from the batteries," and returned at daylight with them all.[1]

On the 4th of September, Captain Ross sent his boats again after some vessels into the same bay; under a smart fire from the batteries, they brought them all out, six sail of schooners.

On the 20th of November, Admiral Duckworth reports, that since the return he made in September, his squadron had taken forty-two vessels and destroyed two privateers.

"Racoon, off the east end of Jamaica,
16th of July, 1803.

"Sir,

"I beg leave to acquaint you, that at half past eleven on Monday morning, the 11th instant, while working between the island of Guanaba and St. Domingo, I observed a French national brig lying at anchor in Leogane roads, and I immediately bore up for her. On approaching, I found them preparing to receive us with springs on their cables, &c. At a quarter before three (P.M.) I anchored with springs within thirty yards of him, and immediately commenced an action, which was continued on both sides for about thirty minutes, when she cut her cables and began to make off. I instantly cut and followed her; and after about ten minutes more

Stephen's Defence of Register Bill. Appendix.
Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 335.; vol. xi. p. 160.

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[1] Rear-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, in his letter of the 19th of November, from Jamaica, reports, that Lieutenant Foley of the Hercule, in the Gipsey tender, had destroyed a French privateer, and Captain Roberts, in the Snake, driven one on shore upon Rocky Point, Jamaica, and taken sixty prisoners. *Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle*, vol. xi. p. 158.

of well-directed fire, we so completely unrigged her, that she struck her colours and called out they had surrendered. We were obliged to anchor again immediately, to prevent driving on shore. She proves to be Le Lodi, pierced for twenty guns, but had only ten mounted, commanded by M. Pierre Isaac Taupier, capitaine de fregate. Our sails and rigging are a good deal cut; but I am happy to say I had not a man killed, and the only person wounded is Mr. Thomas Gill, master's mate, whose left arm was carried off by a shot, — a very worthy promising young man, who has served his time in the navy, and will, if he survives, do credit to your patronage.

" The loss of the enemy is one killed, and thirteen or fourteen wounded, by their account.

" The conduct of Mr. James Alexander Gordon, the first lieutenant, on this as well as many other recent occasions, has been highly exemplary and praiseworthy; and I have much pleasure in informing you, that the whole of the officers and ship's company behaved fully to my satisfaction.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" Austin Bissell."

" Sir J. T. Duckworth, K.B., Rear-Admiral of the Red,
" and Commander-in-Chief, &c., &c., &c."

It is impossible that posterity should be able to judge accurately of the character of the war waged in the West Indies, without a knowledge of the details. The temptation afforded by our extensive commerce, stimulated our opponents to great exertions, and particularly in Guadaloupe, where numerous fine vessels, admirably equipped and excellently manned, were fitted out. How these vessels were destroyed, the extraordinary gallantry shewn in the various actions in boats, are interesting facts; they are also examples for our navy in future wars, which it will be difficult for them to equal, impossible to excel. They cannot be woven into a continuous tale, and the reader for mere amusement will be weary with their multiplicity; nevertheless, the record will be deeply interesting to the relatives and descendants of the parties concerned, and justice forbids the omission of the names of those who have deserved so well of their country. Against a repetition of such exploits in boats, the fact that few of the reports of the failures found their way into the gazette, must be taken into consideration; but such laurels are too brilliant and unfading, not to be eagerly sought hereafter by British seamen.

27 Brumaire, an 12 de la republique Françoise, is the date of General Rochambeau's letter to Commodore Loring, which states, " Pour prevenir l'effusion du sang, et sauver les debris epars de l'armée de St. Domingue, j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer deux offi-

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 243.

ciers, chargés de mes instructions à l'effet d'entrer en accommodement avec vous: le general de brigade Boye, chef d'état major-general, et le capitaine de vaisseau Barre, sont chargés de vous remettre ma lettre. Je les choisi pour avoir l'avantage de traiter avec vous. J'ai l'honneur d'etre avec la plus grande consideration, monsieur,

"D. ROCHAMBEAU."

The propositions were, 1. That General Rochambeau and his guards, consisting of about 400 or 500 men, shall evacuate the Cape, and be conveyed to France, without being considered prisoners of war.

2. The Surveillant and Cerf to be allowed to carry him and suite to France.

These were refused, and Captain Loring wrote to him.

"Bellerophon, off Cape François,
19th November, 1803.

"SIR,

"I have to acquaint you, on the subject communicated to me by General Boye and Commodore Barre, of your desire to negociate for the surrender of Cape François to His Britannic Majesty, that I send for the purpose, and to know your final determination, Captain Moss, of his Majesty's ship Desirée, in order to agree with your wishes, insomuch as is consistent with the just rights of His Britannic Majesty on that point. I have also to inform you, my instructions confine me to the French officers and troops in health being sent to Jamaica, and the sick to go to France or America. The transports to convey them being first valued, and security given by the commander-in-chief for the due payment of the valuation by the French republic. The white inhabitants of the Cape will not be permitted to go to Jamaica. Such are the parts of my instructions with which I am bound to comply in any agreement for the surrender of Cape François.

"J. LORING."

To which General Rochambeau replied,

"MONSIEUR,

"Je viens de recevoir la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire. Comme vos propositions sont inadmissibles, je vous prie de considerer ma lettre precedente comme non avenue."

Dessalines' Proclamation, which was stuck up by order of General Rochambeau, on the 20th November, in the Town of the Cape.

"Head-quarters, Haut-du-Cap, the 27 Brumaire, (Nov. 19th,) 1803.

"The commander-in-chief of the indigenous army, to the citizens,
"inhabitants of the town of the Cape.

"CITIZENS,

"Having entered this day into a negotiation with the commander-in-chief, Rochambeau, respecting the evacuation by his troops of

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 187.

the town of the cape, that opportunity enables me, citizens inhabitants, to tranquillize the fears by which you may be alarmed on such an event. The war which we have continued to wage up to this day has no relation whatever to the inhabitants of this unhappy colony. I have uniformly held out protection and security to the inhabitants of every complexion, and on the present occasion you shall find me adhere to the same line of conduct. The manner in which the inhabitants of every description, of Jeremie, Cayes, and of Port-au-Prince, have been received and treated, affords a certain pledge of my good faith and honour. Let those among you, citizens, who feel repugnant to leave their country, remain; you shall experience, under my government, protection and security, both for your persons and property; those who may be disposed to follow the French army are free to do so.

"I have the honour to be, &c., &c.,

"DESSALINES.

"The president of the council, REYNOARD."

At this time the French had agreed to surrender the Cape to General Dessalines.

"Bellerophon, off Cape François,
23d November, 1803.

"SIR,

"Having received information that General Rochambeau's intentions are to endeavour to make his escape in a schooner, and observing yesterday afternoon several boats pass and repass between the Surveillante and an armed schooner, lying in the Caracol passage, I made the signal for the launches armed to assemble on board the Blanche, and ordered Captain Mudge to proceed with them off the entrance of that passage, to intercept her should she attempt to come out. I directed the launches to be under the command of Lieutenant Pilch, of the Bellerophon, and at two A.M., she was judiciously boarded, and taken by the launches of the Bellerophon and Elephant, without the loss of a man killed or wounded, though for a short time under a very smart fire from the enemy's great guns and small arms. She proves to be the French national schooner Le Decouverte, commanded by M. Froyan, ensign de vaisseau; she had mounted six six-pounders, and six brass swivels, and fifty-two men. The enemy had two men wounded. The officer commanding the Desirée's launch, being anxious to secure the passage, got so far to the eastward of the entrance as not to observe the motions of the other boats, that he unfortunately could not join them or get near the schooner till day-light, or I am sensible, from the character he bears, would have been as vigilant as the other boats.

"I have the honour, &c.

"Sir J. T. Duckworth." "JOHN LORING."

Gazette Letters.

" Sir, " Goliath, off Cape Nichola Mole, June 28th, 1803.

" In consequence of your permission to chase, I stood in shore to cut off the two ships seen this morning, and was fortunate enough to carry up the breeze to the sternmost, which had got becalmed close under Cape St. Nicholas. She hauled her colours down after returning a few shot, and proved to be La Mignonne, a remarkably fast sailing ship corvette of sixteen long eighteen pounders (six of which she had landed), commanded by Monsieur J. P. Bargeaud, capitaine de frigate, two days from Les Cayes, bound to the Cape, in her way to France. She has only eighty men.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) " C. Brisbane.

" Commodore Bayntun."

" P. S. Last night, a small schooner was observed standing into the convoy, which appearing suspicious, I sent a boat manned and armed, and found her to be a Frenchman, from St. Jago de Cuba to Port-au-Prince, with a cargo of sugar, and 3476 dollars in cash. She has three guns and some swivels mounted."

" Sir, " H.M.S. Cumberland, between Jean Rabel and Cape Nichola Mole, 30th June, 1803.

" Having parted with the convoy, as I had the honour of informing you in my letter of yesterday, I stretched in with the squadron, during the night, for St. Domingo. Soon after daylight, a large sail was seen near the Tortugas, steering down Cape Nichola Mole, and, from the cut of her sails, I judged her to be a French ship of war. The Cumberland, with the Vanguard, were soon close up to her, the latter on the starboard, and the former on the larboard bow. In this position she received a few shot from the Vanguard; and, having fired one, struck to his Majesty's squadron, and was immediately taken possession of. She proved to be the Creole, a remarkably fine national French frigate, of forty-four guns, carrying eighteen pounders, and commanded by Citizen le Bastard, from Cape François, bound to Port-au-Prince, at sea one day, having General Morgan (the second in command at St. Domingo) and staff, with 530 troops on board, the crew of the frigate consisting only of 150 men, two of whom were badly wounded. While we were taking possession of the prize, a small national schooner, commanded by a lieutenant, came into the squadron, and was taken. She came from Cape François, and bound to Port-au-Prince, having on board 100 blood hounds from Cuba, intended to accompany the army serving against the Blacks.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" H. W. Bayntun.

" Rear-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth,
K. B., &c. &c."

Naval Chronicle, Gazette Letters, vol. x. p. 334.

Upon the 24th of June, leave was given by the King of England for granting letters of marque and reprisal against the French and Batavian republics.

Intelligence of the war soon reached General Rochambeau. His exertions were now limited to hunting down straggling Negroes with blood hounds, whose natural ferocity was increased by having these poor wretches thrown to them to be devoured alive. In July, Commodore Loring arrived off the cape, with the fleet under his command. Dessalines and Christophe immediately applied to him for ammunition; and Rochambeau opened a communication with him, to ascertain what terms he was likely to obtain by capitulation.

Upon the 6th of September, General Kerversau, who had ineffectually attempted to keep his ground against the Blacks in the Mirebalais, retreated to the city of Santo Domingo, and arrived there simultaneously with the troops from Jacumel. Soon afterwards General Ferrand arrived there with 500 men from St. Jago; being senior officer, he took the command of the city.

The French evacuated Port-au-Prince, leaving it in the possession of Petion.

By the general voice of the Blacks, Dessalines was appointed to act as commander-in-chief; he determined to prosecute the war with vigour, and marched with a great force into the plain of Cape François. The French sallied out to risk a general battle; they attacked the Negroes with the utmost resolution. Dessalines' troops gave way to the shock, and a considerable number of them were taken prisoners. The French attempted to pursue the advantage, but were repulsed with great loss, and a party who were marching to strengthen one of the wings of their army, were surrounded and carried in triumph to the Blacks' camp. During the night, Rochambeau, regardless of the fate which awaited his own countrymen, executed his prisoners with circumstances of peculiar barbarity. Some were mutilated, and suffered to die slowly; their shrieks reached the ears of Dessalines, who immediately caused gibbets to be erected. By daylight, not only every officer that he had taken prisoner, but numerous privates were swinging in the breeze, in full view of the French. Nor was this all, the Blacks made an impetuous attack, which was successful. A terrible slaughter ensued; some fugitives escaped to Cape François; but their camp was destroyed. From this time the French were unable to face their opponents in the field.

The Blacks, notwithstanding all resistance, passed the outer lines and blockhouses, and prepared to storm the city. No-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 517, 518, 519.
Annual Register, 1802, p. 112. Official Letter.
Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de St. Domingo, Gil. Guillermin, p. 19.

thing could save the French but negociation. This General Rochambeau knew. Accordingly, he sent to Dessalines, and succeeded in making terms.[1] The French, however, did not comply with them in point of time; but on the 30th of November, Dessalines' colours were hoisted on the different forts, and the French had fled for refuge on board their ships. Commodore Loring sent Captain Bligh to Dessalines, to ascertain the fate of the French. As he entered the harbour, he was met by Captain Barre, of the French troops, then going in quest of the English, to request them to enter the harbour immediately, and take possession of the ships, as the only method left by which his countrymen could be saved from inevitable destruction. Dessalines was then preparing to fire upon them with red-hot shot, and the wind prevented their departure.

But even at this moment of distress, they contrived to procure

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 522.

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[1] *Capitulation of Cape François, agreed to by General Rochambeau on the part of the French Army, and General Dessalines, commanding the Black Troops, or as they are termed 'L'armée Indigene.'*

"This day, the 27th Brumaire of the 12th year, according to the French æra, and the 19th of November, 1803, according to the common æra, the Adjutant Commandant Duveyrier, having received full power from General Rochambeau, commander-in-chief of the French army, to treat for the surrender of the town of the cape, and Jean Jacques Dessalines, general of the native army, being also authorised to treat on the occasion, have agreed on the following articles; viz.

"ART. 1. The town of the cape and the forts dependent thereon shall be given up in ten days, reckoning from to-morrow the 28th of Brumaire, (November the 18th,) to the general in-chief, Dessalines.

"2. The military stores which are now in the arsenals, the arms, and the artillery of the town and forts, shall be left in their present condition.

"3. All the ships of war and other vessels, which shall be judged necessary by General Rochambeau for the removal of the troops and inhabitants, and for the evacuation of the place, shall be free to depart on the day appointed.

"4. All the officers, military and civil, and the troops composing the garrison of the cape, shall leave the place with all the honours of war, carrying with them their arms and all the private property belonging to their demi-brigades.

"5. The sick and wounded, who shall not be in a condition to embark, shall be taken care of in the hospitals till their recovery; they are specially recommended to the humanity of General Dessalines, who will cause them to be embarked for France in neutral vessels.

"6. General Dessalines, in giving the assurance of his protection to the inhabitants who shall remain in the country, calls at the same time upon the justice of General Rochambeau, to set at liberty all the natives of the country (whatever may be their colour), as they cannot be constrained under any pretext of right to embark with the French army.

"7. The troops of both armies shall remain in their respective positions until the tenth day after the signature hereof, which is the day fixed on for the evacuation of the cape.

"8. The general-in-chief, Rochambeau, will send as a hostage for the observance of the present stipulations the Adjutant-Commandant Urbain de Vaux, in exchange for whom the general-in-chief, Dessalines, will send an officer of the same rank.

"Two copies of this convention are hereby executed in strict faith at the head-quarters on the heights of the cape, on the day, month, and year aforesaid.

"Signed, "DUVEYRIER.
"DESSALINES.

Official Papers, Annual Register, 1804, p. 186.

terms from Captain Bligh.[1] Captain Bligh immediately hastened to General Dessalines, to inform him of what had been done, and with much difficulty prevailed upon him to suffer the French to depart without further molestation. There were 8000 men, including seamen and soldiers; these had taken refuge on board three frigates and seventeen merchant vessels, and were carried to Jamaica.

The situation of the French in St. Domingo is best learnt from the following official letters to Rear-Admiral Duckworth.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 522.

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[1] *Capitulation for evacuating the Cape, between John Bligh, Captain of his Majesty's Ship Theseus, invested with the Powers of J. Loring, Esq., of his Majesty's Ship Bellerophon, and the senior Officer of the Squadron cruizing before Cape François on the one hand, and on the other Jaques Boye, General of Brigade, Chief of the Staff of the French Army, and Henry Barre, Capitaine de Vaisseau, Commander of the Naval Forces at St. Domingo, authorised conjointly by the Commander-in Chief Rochambeau, Captain-General of the Colony.*

The following Articles were agreed to.

"Art. 1. The French ships of war and merchantmen which now lie at anchor in this port shall be delivered up to the English.

"Answer. Granted.

"2. The garrison of Cape François embarked on board the ships, as likewise their crews, shall be prisoners of war, and shall be sent to Europe, on condition not to serve until they shall have been exchanged, and that as soon as possible, in order that the exchange may take place without delay.

"Ans. Granted.

"3. All the generals and other officers are comprised in the preceding article, and shall retain their arms.

"4. The sick who are embarked on board the Nouvelle Sophie, and of the Julienne, shall be sent directly to France, and the English shall engage to give them every possible assistance to that effect, and also to furnish them with provisions and medicines.

"Ans. The crews of the Nouvelle Sophie and of the Julienne, being insufficient to navigate these vessels to France, the number requisite for that purpose shall be filled up from sailors out of the crews of other ships; and all the provisions and medicines which may be furnished without inconvenience shall be so furnished from his Majesty's ships.

"5. The property of individuals shall be rigorously respected. The papers belonging to the army shall be given into the hands of the chief of the staff.

"Ans. Granted.

"6. The American, Spanish and Swedish ships, on board of which are embarked such of the inhabitants of St. Domingo who shall be inclined to follow the army, and who consequently shall constitute a part of the evacuation, shall be at liberty to proceed to their respective destinations without being molested.

"Ans. Granted, provided it be proved that these ships belong to those nations, and an inquiry shall be instituted to that effect.

"7. The frigates shall sail out under French colours, and shall discharge their guns before they strike.

"Ans. Granted.

"8. The servants of the officers shall be considered as belonging to the army; and individuals who shall voluntarily embark in order to follow the French army shall be put on shore on the territory of St. Domingo.

"Ans. Granted.

"Agreed to and signed on board the Surveillante, at Cape François, the 30th November, 1803.

"Signed,

J. Bligh, Capt. of his Majesty's ship Theseus.

H. Barre, Capt. de Vaisseau.

J. Boye, General of Brigade, Chief of the Staff.

Annual Register, 1804, p. 188.

" Sir, " Bellerophon, off Cape Maize, July 26th, 1803.

" In pursuance to your orders relative to the blockade of Cape François, with the squadron under my command, in the performance of which, I trust, my endeavours may not be found deficient, I beg leave to inform you, that on Sunday the 24th ult., at six P. M., being off that port, a heavy squall came on from the land, which induced the two line-of-battle ships to attempt an escape. The weather soon moderating, they were immediately discovered, and the signal for a general chase was made. On their clearing the harbour, they hauled to the westward to take advantage of the land wind. Every effort possible was made to keep sight of them during the night, which was effected principally by the vigilance of Captains Evans and Perkins, of the Æolus and Tartar. At half past nine o'clock, I was informed by an officer from the Elephant, who had been on board the Tartar, that one of the ships had tacked to the eastward, and the other steering to the westward, close along shore; in consequence of which I directed Captain Dundas to tack, and endeavour to cut off the former, the Elephant being the weathermost ship, and pursued the other with the two frigates. The Theseus and Vanguard being to leeward in the first of the squall, did not join me till about twelve o'clock at night. At daylight we were within gunshot of the chase. On hearing a heavy cannonading to the eastward, I made the Theseus' signal to chase east, having been unfortunately unable to make a similar disposition during the night; and at half past three P. M. on the 25th, we came up with, and exchanging several bow and stern chasers with the Vanguard and Tartar, who were the headmost ships, she struck her colours, and proves to be the Duquesne, of seventy-four guns, commanded by Monsieur Kerrangel, capitaine de vaisseau, from Cape François, bound to Europe. I am sorry to say one man was killed, and another wounded on board the Vanguard; none on board the enemy's ships.

" In passing between the two islands of St. Domingo and Tortuga, near Port-au-Paix, we took the French national schooner Oisseau, of sixteen guns and sixty men, commanded by Monsieur Druault, lieutenant de vaisseau, which I have ordered, with the Duquesne, to Port Royal, under charge of the Vanguard and Tartar.

" I have honour to be, &c.

" John Loring."

" Rear-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B."

Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 499.

Rear-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B., to Sir Evan Nepean, Bart.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Bellerophon, at sea, 13th August, 1803.

"On the 5th instant, between Cape Nichola Mole and Cape François, I fell in with the Elephant, when Captain Dundas informed me, that the two line-of-battle ships, with the frigate Guerrier, had got out of the cape in a very violent squall, late in the afternoon of the 24th, and that the Duquesne, of seventy-four guns, had been captured in the afternoon of the 25th, but the Duguay Trouen, from superiority of sailing, had escaped, although the Elephant had commenced an action within point-blank shot; but for the particulars of these transactions I beg to refer their lordships to the letter of Captain Loring; and I trust their lordships will view the ardour and zeal of that officer and his squadron as meriting their praise, though unfortunately the darkness of the evening, when the Duguay Trouen hauled her wind, prevented the Elephant from being seconded by the Theseus in time to be useful.

"I am, &c.

"J. T. Duckworth."

"Sir, "Vanguard, off Cape Nichola Mole, September 9th, 1803.

"Understanding from General Dessalines, that it was his intention to summon the town of St. Marc immediately, which was reduced to the last extremity, I was strongly induced to urge him not to put the garrison to death, which he consented to; and I stipulated with him, that if they surrendered he should march them round to the Mole in safety, and that I would appear off the bay, and take possession of the shipping, one of which I knew to be a ship of war.

"I received General Dessalines' dispatches about eight o'clock at night of the 31st of October, and got under weigh at one A. M. At daylight we chased a man-of-war brig off St. Marc; but the wind being light and partial, she got into that place. In the afternoon we perceived a flag of truce coming out; but a heavy squall of wind and rain obliged them to return. The following morning they came on board, and brought a letter from General d'Henin, which I answered by making several distinct propositions, and sent them in the ship's boat as a flag of truce with an officer, and Mr. Cathcart had the goodness to take charge of them. About five o'clock the same day, the general himself came on board in the boat, and we agreed to a convention. The next day and part of the night we were busily employed in effecting the embarkation of the garrison, &c.; and the whole being completed, General d'Henin and his staff came on board the Vanguard at three o'clock in the

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Naval Chronicle, vol. x. p. 499. Gazette Letters, vol. xi. p. 61.

morning of the 4th, and we made sail out of the bay. The situation of this garrison was the most deplorable it is possible to imagine, they were literally reduced to nothing, and long subsisted on horse flesh. I forgot to mention, that on the 1st we captured the same schooner we had taken on the 26th past, with twenty-five barrels of flour going to St. Marc, which I took out, and transferring her people with fifteen soldiers she had on board to a sloop we took at the same time, sent her away, and kept the schooner, as she might be eventually useful to us, and she is the vessel I have made over to General d'Henin. The vessels delivered to us consist of the Papillon corvette, pierced for twelve guns, but only mounting six, having fifty-two men on board, commanded by M. Dubourg, lieutenant de vaisseau, the brig Les Trois Amis, transport, nothing in, and the schooner Mary Sally, who has between forty and fifty barrels of powder. General d'Henin has given me regular receipts for the garrison, which amounts in all to 850 men. I have further to inform you, Sir, that on the 5th we captured the national schooner Le Courier de Nantes, of two guns and four swivels, and fifteen men, commanded by an ensign de vaisseau, from Port-au-Prince, with a supply of thirty barrels of flour, and sundry other articles for St. Marc. I enclose a weekly account, and have great satisfaction in stating that we are almost well again; not one of the men who came from the hospital has died.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"James Walker."

"To Sir J. T. Duckworth, K.B."

"Sir, "Shark, Port Royal, Jamaica, Sept. 29th, 1803.

"His Majesty's sloop Pelican having been employed these eight weeks in watching the port of Aux Cayes, Captain Whitby writes me on the 21st instant, that the general of division, Brunette, had sent off Brigadier-General le Fevre, to propose taking off his garrison, but as it appeared that the numbers are beyond what the vessels in the harbour, with the assistance of the Pelican, could effect, Captain Whitby (of whose assiduity I cannot speak too highly) agreed on an armistice of ten days, to communicate with me; and though I had in some degree anticipated the want, by sending the Pique on that service, I have in consequence added the Theseus, and am in expectation, that before the sailing of this packet I shall have to request, that in addition to this you will communicate to the lords commissioners of the admiralty the capitulation of the garrison.

"I am, &c.

"Sir Evan Nepean, Bart." "J. T. Duckworth."

Gazette Letters, vol. xi. p. 62. Naval Chronicle.

"Shark, Port Royal, Jamaica,
September 30th, 1803.

"Sir,

"Captain Bligh, whose merits as an officer are always conspicuous, having, during the time he was senior officer at the blockade of the Cape, thought it for the good of the service to attack Fort Dauphin, I send you herewith his statement of the success and the capture of La Sagesse, of twenty eight-pounders on her main deck, and eight four-pounders on her quarter deck.

"I am, Sir, &c.

"J. T. Duckworth."

"Sir Evan Nepean, Bart."

"Theseus, Port Dauphin, St. Domingo,
September 8th, 1803.

"Sir,

"Having found extreme difficulty in preventing small vessels from passing into Cape François with provisions, from the little ports on the northern part of the island, in consequence of their finding a safe retreat under the batteries of Port Dauphin, and conceiving that port to be of the utmost importance to the enemy, I deemed it necessary to make some efforts for the reduction of the place, and the capture of a ship of war at anchor there. As soon as the sea-breeze this morning rendered it impossible for the enemy's frigates to leave their anchorage, I proceeded to Manchineel Bay, leaving the Hercule and Cumberland on their station. The water being sufficiently deep to allow me to place the ship within musket-shot of Fort Labouque, situated at the entrance of the harbour, our fire was so well directed, that it was impossible for the guns of the battery to be pointed with any precision, the colours of which were struck in less than half an hour. Another fort in the harbour and the ship being the next objects of our attention, the Theseus entered the port with the assistance of the boats, and having fired a few shot at the ship of war, she hauled her colours down, and proved to be La Sagesse, mounting twenty eight-pounders on the main deck, and eight four-pounders on the quarter deck and forecastle, commanded by Lieutenant J. B. Baruetche, and having only seventy-five men on board. The commandant, conceiving the place no longer tenable after the loss of the ship, and being under some apprehensions of being exposed to the rage of the Blacks, whom he considered as a merciless enemy, claimed British protection, and surrendered the fort and garrison at discretion. Having spiked the guns and destroyed the ammunition, the garrison and inhabitants, many of whom were sickly, were embarked and landed under a flag of truce at Cape François. Being informed by the prisoners that their general, Dumont, and his suite, had lately fallen into the hands of the Blacks, and that they were in the most imminent danger, I was induced, from motives of humanity, to solicit their

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 62.

freedom from the chief of these people, and I had the satisfaction of having my request immediately complied with: they accompanied the rest of the prisoners into Cape François.

" I am, Sir, &c.

" John Bligh."

" Rear-Adm. Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B."

" Sir, " Port Royal, 18th December, 1803.

" In my letter, No. 3, by this conveyance, I stated to you, for the information of my lords commissioners of the admiralty, that General Rochambeau had made proposals for capitulating, which, though inadmissible, I thought soon must lead to others more reasonable. The event has justified my opinion; but I am sorry to say, that officer, whose actions are too extraordinary to account for, had on the 19th ult. (previous to his proposals to Captain Loring, through the general of brigade Boyé, and Commodore Barre,) actually entered into a capitulation with the black general Dessalines, to deliver up the Cape to him, with all the ordnance, ammunition, and stores, on the 30th, I conclude, flattering himself that the tremendous weather, which our squadron was then and had been experiencing for three weeks, would offer an opening for an escape; but the perseverance and watchfulness thereof precluded him from even attempting it. On the 30th, the colours of the Blacks were displayed at the forts, which induced Captain Loring to dispatch Captain Bligh to know General Dessalines' sentiments respecting General Rochambeau and his troops, when, on his entering the harbour, he met Commodore Barre, who pressed him in strong terms to go on board the Surveillante, and enter into some capitulation which would put them under our protection, and prevent the Blacks from sinking them with red-hot shot, as they had threatened, and were preparing to do, which Captain Bligh complied with, when they hastily brought him a few articles they had drawn up, which he (after objecting to some particular parts that they agreed should be altered, to carry his interpretation, on their arrival at Jamaica) signed, and hastened to acquaint General Dessalines, that all the ships and vessels in port had surrendered to his Majesty's arms, and with great difficulty he obtained the promise to desist from firing till a wind offered for carrying them out (it then blowing hard directly into the harbour). This promise he at length obtained; and the first instant the land-breeze enabled them to sail out under French colours, upon a shot being fired athwart of them, the vessels of war fired their broadsides, and hauled down their colours, except the Clorinde, a large frigate of thirty-eight guns, which unluckily took the ground abaft, and was forced to throw most of her guns overboard, and knocked her rudder off, when there was great apprehension for her safety; and

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. p. 243.

I am informed by the captains of the squadron, that we must attribute the saving her (apparently without further damage) to the uncommon exertions and professional abilities of acting Lieutenant Willoughby, with the boats of the Hercule, who, I trust, will be honoured with their lordships' protection.

" Captain Loring, after seeing the generality of the prizes taken possession of, left the Theseus and Hercule to fix a temporary rudder to the frigate, and bring the remainder with them, bearing away for the Mole, and on the 2d, summoned the general of brigade Noailles, who commanded there, to capitulate. This he declined doing, asserting he had provisions for five months; and herewith I transmit a copy of his letter. The numerous and crowded state of the prisoners on board all the prizes, and their being without provisions, making it necessary for Captain Loring to proceed to Jamaica, he arrived here the 5th, with the Elephant and Blanche, also the Surveillante and Vertu, thirty-eight gun frigates, and various other prizes, leaving the Pique to blockade the Mole, who anchored in this port the 8th, and acquainted me that General Noailles had evacuated the night he refused to capitulate, bringing in with her five out of the six vessels in which the garrison had embarked, a brig, with the general on board, only escaping. I send a vessel of war to England, with General Rochambeau and those officers who are said to have participated in his cruelties at the Cape. " I am, &c.

" Sir Evan Nepean, Bart." " J. T. DUCKWORTH."

Proclamation of the three military Chiefs, Dessalines, Christophe, and Clervaux, Nov. 29th, 1803.

" In the name of the black people and men of colour of
" St. Domingo.

" The independence of St. Domingo is proclaimed. Restored to our primitive dignity, we have proclaimed our rights; we swear never to yield them to any power on earth. The frightful veil of prejudice is torn to pieces, and is so for ever; woe be to whomsoever would dare again to put together its bloody tatters!

" O landholders of St. Domingo, wandering in foreign countries, by proclaiming our independence we do not intend to forbid you indiscriminately from returning to your property; far be it from us this unjust idea. We are not ignorant that there are some among you that have renounced their old errors, abjured the injustice of their exorbitant pretensions, and acknowledged the lawfulness of the cause for which we have been spilling our blood these twelve years. Towards these men who do us justice we will act as brothers; let them rely for ever on our esteem and friendship, let them return among us. The God who protects us, the God of freemen, bids us to stretch out towards them our conquering arms. But as for those

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 189.

who, intoxicated with a foolish pride, and interested slaves of a guilty pretension, are blinded so much as to think that they are the essence of human nature, and affect to believe that they are destined by Heaven to be our masters and our tyrants, let them never come near the land of St. Domingo; if they come hither they will only meet with chains and deportation. Let them stay then where they are, and tormented by their well-deserved misery, and the frowns of the just men they have too long mocked at, let them still continue disregarded and unpitied.

"We have sworn not to listen to clemency towards all those who would dare to speak to us of slavery. We shall be inexorable, perhaps even cruel, towards all the troops, who themselves forgetting the object for which they have not ceased fighting since 1780, should come yet from Europe to carry among us death and servitude. Nothing is too dear, and every means are lawful to men from whom it is wished to tear the first of all blessings. Were they to cause rivers and torrents of blood to run, — were they, in order to maintain their liberty, to conflagrate seven-eighths of the globe, they are innocent before the tribunal of providence, that has not created men to see them groaning under harsh and shameful servitude. If in the various insurrections that took place, some inhabitants, against whom we had not to complain, have been victims of the cruelty of a few soldiers or cultivators, too much blinded by the remembrance of the past sufferings to be able to distinguish the good and humane land-owners from those that were unfeeling and cruel, we lament with all feeling souls so deplorable an end, and declare to the world, whatever may be said to the contrary by wicked people, that the murders were committed contrary to the wishes of our hearts. It was impossible, especially in the crisis in which the colony was, to be able to prevent or stop those horrors. They who are in the least acquainted with history, all know that a people when assailed by civil dissentions, though they may be the most polished on earth, give themselves up to all kinds of excess, and the authority of the chiefs, always but poorly consolidated in a time of revolution, cannot punish all those that are guilty, without always meeting with new difficulties. But now-a-days, the aurora of peace lets us have the glimpse of a less stormy time; now that the calm of victory has succeeded to the troubles of a dreadful war, every thing in St. Domingo ought to assume a new face, and its government henceforward to be that of justice.

"Done at the head-quarters, Fort Dauphin, Nov. 29th, 1803.

(Signed) "DESSALINES.
"CHRISTOPHE.
"CLERVEAUX.
"B. AMIE, Sec."

Annual Register, 1804, p. 189.

" Bellerophon, off Cape Nicola Mole,
December 2d, 1803.

" Sir,

" From General Rochambeau's extraordinary conduct in the public service, neither Captain Bligh or myself have had any thing to say to him, further than complying with his wishes, in allowing him to remain on board the Surveillante until her arrival at Jamaica, which I very readily agreed to, as also the commodore. I have General Boye with about twenty-two officers and 190 soldiers and sailors on board the Bellerophon, and sixty more on board the Hercule, that were taken out of the Surveillante: the Blanche has on board all the crew of the Cerf.

" I had began this letter yesterday to have dispatched the Blanche early this morning, but on seeing the Desirée coming down with six sail, waited until she joined, and am happy to inform you, that through the exertions of Lieutenant Willoughby, the Clorinde is afloat again with the loss of her rudder, and Captain Bligh is preparing a temporary one to bring her down. The Vertu and other ships are out, and I am in hourly expectation of seeing them with the Elephant.

" I have sent Captain Ross into the Mole to summon the garrison to surrender, and shall dispatch the Blanche immediately I have General Noailles' answer.

" Half past four. — Captain Ross has this instant returned with the enclosed answer, and I dispatch the Blanche in consequence, and shall follow soon after. The Elephant, Vertu, and ten sail of various descriptions of vessels are now joining.

" I have, &c. &c.

" Rear-Admiral Duckworth." " John Loring."

" Louis Noailles, general de brigade, au Commodore Loring.

" Au Quartier General du Mole, le 10 Frimaire,
an 12 de la republique Françoise.

" Monsieur,

" J'ai reçu la lettre dont vous m'avez honoré sous la date du 10 Frimaire. Je desire que vous ne fassiez connoitre les termes auquel vous m'offrez de traiter avec vous.

" J'ai l'honneur d'être, avec la plus haute consideration,
" Monsieur,
" Votre tres humble et obeissant serviteur,
(Signé) " Noailles."

Captain Loring's Report to Admiral Duckworth.

" Sir, " Bellerophon, off Tortuga, 30th November, 1803.

" I have to inform you of the surrender of Cape François to the General Dessalines on the 18th instant, when he attacked it at the head of the army, and agreed with General Rochambeau for ten days to complete the evacuation.

Gazette Letter, Naval Chronicle, vol. xi. pp. 245. 247.

" Not having received a second proposition from Rochambeau, during the suspension of hostilities between the two parties, I endeavoured, if possible, to learn the disposition of Dessalines, seeing his flag flying on the forts, as to the ships of war and other vessels in the harbour, and you will see by his letter to me of the 27th, which I herewith transmit, as well as a copy of mine to him, the indefinite mode of expression he makes use of. I therefore sent Captain Bligh to explain with him. On his arrival at the Cape he met, on the part of Rochambeau, a strong desire to agree for the surrender of the ships and vessels, which, from his declaration to destroy them, I had no reason to expect. The articles of agreement which were entered into I herewith enclose, and hope they will meet your approbation. Captain Bligh immediately made known to Dessalines the surrender of the frigates and merchant vessels to His Britannic Majesty, and requested he would give orders to prevent firing on them, which till then was his intention, and after some hesitation, General Dessalines reluctantly complied. This morning the Surveillante, Cerf brig, an hospital ship, and three or four neutral schooners came out: the whole were under weigh in the harbour, but owing to the sudden change of wind they were prevented from proceeding. I am sorry to say the Clorinde is on shore under Fort Joseph, and I fear will be totally lost. I have taken possession of the vessels that are out, and left Captain Bligh with L'Hercule, Desirée, and Pique, to complete the evacuation of the Cape and Monte Christi. When the Elephant joins with the Vertu and merchant vessels I left in the Cape, I shall proceed with her and prizes to Port Royal, leaving the Tartar to blockade the Mole.

" I have, &c.

" Admiral Duckworth." " John Loring."

Captain Loring's Letter to General Dessalines.

" Sir,

" Not having had the honour to receive your answer to my letter of yesterday, I beg to represent, that from the tenor of yours of the 22d I did hope to see your flag flying this morning at Fort Picolet.

" As I have full confidence you will not rescind the agreement with General Rochambeau, who intends, if possible, to have more time granted to him to escape, and that you will have possession of the town and its forts this afternoon, I shall then be much obliged if you will send me some experienced pilots to conduct a part of my squadron into the harbour, to take possession of the shipping.

" I have the honour, &c.

" John Loring."

Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol xi. p. 245.

" Liberté ou la mort."

" MONSIEUR, Au Quartier General, le 6 Frimaire, an 12.

" Je vous accuse recette de la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir; vous pouvez vous convaincre que mes dispositions pour vous et contre le General Rochambeau sont invariables.

" J'entrerai dans la place de Cap demain matin, à la tête de mon armée. Je ne puis, Monsieur, quoiqu'avec regret, vous envoyer les pilotes que vous demandez ; je presume que vous n'en aurez pas besoin; car je forcerai les batimens Français à sortir de la rade, et vous en agirez avec eux comme vous le jugerez convenable.

" J'ai l'honneur d'etre, &c.

" DESSALINES."

1804.

On January the 25th, Major-General John Stuart was appointed lieutenant-governor of Grenada.

On the 8th of May, Charles Cameron, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Bahama islands.

In June, the Methodist missionary at Antigua reported the numbers in society on that island to be 22 Whites and 3516 Blacks and people of colour, and that not less than 300 had died during the year. He says, " We have had scarcely any rain for five months; I am obliged to ride three miles to get water for my horse."

At Nevis, in May, the Methodists report, that since the commencement of this year they had joined upwards of 200 to their society.

The Methodist society in Barbadoes consisted of forty-nine members.

The number of slaves in Jamaica is reported to be 308,542 Negroes; imported 5979, exported 1811.

In the night of July 30th, Captain Conway Shipley, of his Majesty's ship Centaur, sent the boats of that ship, under the command of Lieutenants Sibley, Outridge, and Pearce, and Mr. Lloyd, midshipman, to attack the French privateers in Basse Terre roads, Guadaloupe; they succeeded in bringing out two, one of two guns, and the Elizabeth of six guns, pierced for twelve, and having sixty-five men on board, most of whom were either killed, drowned, or swam on shore: only two wounded men were brought out in her.

The beach was lined with troops, who kept up a constant fire of musquetry; all the batteries fired grape shot. The English had one man killed and five wounded.

Captain Shipley's Letter, Annual Register, 1804, pp. 105. 118. 120.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 160. 456.; vol. iii. p. 31.
Stephen's Defence of the Register Bill, Appendix.

Commodore Hood fortified the Diamond Rock, which is within three-quarters of a mile of Martinico, not quite a mile in circumference, and 600 feet high. The south side is inaccessible, like a wall sloping a little towards the top. The east side is also inaccessible, with an overhanging cave about 300 yards high; on the south-west side also are caves of great magnitude. The west side has breakers running into the sea where the men land, which it is often dangerous to do, for under the most favourable circumstances they were obliged to creep through "crannies" round to the north-west side, at every step in danger of breaking their necks. On the north-west side there is a slope with a grove of fig trees, an immense grotto overhangs the grove, in which the captain of the rock lived, (Captain Morris.) In front of the slope, projecting into the sea, was the Queen's battery, with a twenty-four pounder, commanding the entrance and nearly the whole of the bay. From this battery a covered way was made to another fronting the north-east, called the Centaur, where there was another twenty-four pounder. Here all communication ended, and both batteries were amidst breakers which defy approach. Between the two batteries a rope ladder was fixed, by which the garrison passed to the middle of the rock, to Hood's battery, mounting a twenty-four pounder: thence the ascent to the top winds through shrubs and crags, and on the summit were two long eighteen pounders, and the union jack. The process by which these guns were got up was ingenious; the Centaur was brought close under, and a cable fastened on the top of the rock, which served as a stay, upon which travellers passed, to which the gun was lashed, being hove up on board the Centaur, by a purchase fastened on the rock. It was quite a hobby with the commodore, who has been good-humouredly caricatured as sitting astride the rock, with carronades for spurs. On her Majesty's birth-day the British flag was hoisted, and a royal salute fired, and the rock put in commission as a sloop of war, with a sloop's complement of officers and men. Serpents were in abundance, and lizards, goats, and rabbits, tropic birds and doves, bats, and a variety of curious insects. The springs upon the rock are mineral waters, which cannot be drank without inconvenience; tanks therefore were formed.

"Centaur, Diamond, off Martinico,
February 27th, 1804.

"Sir,

"I beg leave to enclose you a copy of a letter I have received from Lieutenant Carr, commanding his Majesty's schooner L'Eclair, giving an account of a most spirited action he fought in the said vessel, of ten guns and sixty men, against the Grande Decide, French ship privateer, of twenty-two guns and two hundred and twenty men, out of Guadaloupe.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 205.

"I cannot sufficiently extol the brilliant and gallant conduct of this officer and crew.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"To Sir Evan Nepean, Bart." "SAMUEL HOOD."

"His Majesty's schooner L'Eclair,
Tortola, February 10th, 1804.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, that on my return from convoying the packet to the northward, in his Majesty's schooner under my command, on the 5th instant at 3 P.M., the island of Tortola bearing south, distant about sixty-eight leagues, saw a strange sail to the southward; suspecting her to be an enemy, made all sail in chace; at half-past three observed her to be a ship standing towards us; at four made the signal No. 275 to her, which not being answered, shortened sail and cleared for action: at half past four, being within musket-shot on our weather bow, she hauled up her courses, hove to, and hoisted French national colours, when I discovered her to be a ship apparently just out of port, mounting twenty-two guns, and conclude, from the number of men seen on her decks, as also her tops, there could not be less than 200. When we came within pistol-shot she commenced the action by firing her larboard broadside and a heavy fire of musquetry, which we returned with the weather broadside and musquetry; wore round, hove to, and fired the starboard broadside. The fire was kept up without intermission on both sides until a quarter past five, when the enemy began to slacken her fire, filled, bore up, and endeavoured to rake us; but, upon observing our preparations to board her by manning the rigging, she ceased firing, and made all sail to the northward, on which we filled and made sail after her, keeping up a fire of musquetry; at seven found she was getting fast away; at half past eight lost sight of her; seeing there was no possibility of coming up, at ten gave over the chace; found great part of the standing and running rigging shot away, the bulwark, masts, yards, &c. much damaged; one marine killed, and four seamen wounded; though the loss on the part of the enemy, I believe, from their apparent confusion, must be greater.

"And, Sir, when I reflect on the great superiority of the enemy in point of force, I cannot say enough in praise of those brave officers and men I have the honour to command, and from whose gallant conduct and zeal on the occasion, particularly when ordered to prepare to board, I felt perfectly confident of carrying the French ship in a few minutes, on the second attack, had not her superior sailing frustrated our intentions.

"I should feel unmindful of my duty, was I to omit representing

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 205.

to you the great assistance I received from Mr. Salmon, the master, on this, as well as on every other occasion.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"W. Carr."

"Commodore Hood, commander-in chief, &c."

"P.S. Upon my arrival at Tortola I had information of the exact particulars of the French ship from the president, which he assured me was well ascertained at St. Thomas', from which place she sailed on the 4th instant, about twenty-eight hours before we fell in with her. She proves to be the Grande Decide, Captain Guay, from Guadaloupe, carrying twenty-two nine-pounders, and 230 men, eighty of which were soldiers."

"Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes,
March 22d, 1804.

"Sir,

"I beg leave to enclose you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, an account from Captain O'Brien, of his Majesty's ship Emerald, and Lieutenant Forrest, of the capture of the Mosambique, French schooner privateer, of ten eighteen pounder carronades, from under the batteries, near the Pearl, which was executed in a most spirited and steady manner by Lieutenant Forrest, and those that accompanied him in the Fort Diamond, on this service.

"I also send a copy of a letter from Captain Ferris, acting in his Majesty's ship Blenheim, giving an account of two boats of that ship, under Lieutenant Furber, attacking the Curieuse, French national schooner, moored, and I have since learned, chained to the beach, under a battery at St. Pierre's.

"I likewise subjoin the copy of a letter from Lieutenant King, first of this ship, now acting in his Majesty's sloop Drake, to Captain Nash, commanding the blockade of the north part of the island of Martinique, giving an account of his carrying, with thirty men only, the fort at Trinité, when opposed to much superior force.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"Samuel Hood."

"William Marsden, Esq."

"His Majesty's Sloop Drake, off Trinité,
February 25th, 1804.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, that on the night of the 19th instant, Lieutenant Compston, and Mr. Robson, master, voluntarily offered to bring out of the harbour of Trinité, three American vessels, that were taking in cargoes, in defiance of the blockade, which they attempted in a very gallant manner, having possession of two brigs and a schooner, under the fire of the fort, for a consider-

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able time, but from having no wind could succeed only in bringing out the schooner.

" The anchorage being within pistol-shot of the fort, I saw no probability of success if another effort was made, unless the fort was reduced; for which purpose I, last night, landed with thirty men, including nine marines, and succeeded in spiking the guns, three thirty-two pounders, and two field-pieces, which commanded the entrance of the fort.

" I am sorry to add, one seaman expired from his wound this morning, and that Lieutenant Compston and one seaman are each wounded in the arm, but are doing very well, which are all that were hurt on the occasion.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" Captain Nash, &c. &c." " Samuel W. King."

" Sir, " Blenheim, March 5th, 1804.

" I beg leave to acquaint you, two boats (the barge and pinnace) of his Majesty's ship under my command, with fifty officers and men, under the orders of Lieutenant Furber, on the night of the 4th, made a most gallant but unsuccessful attempt to cut out a French national schooner, laying close under a fort at the town of St. Pierre. She had made formidable preparations; her boarding nettings being triced up to the lower mast heads, and so fastened, that it was almost impossible to get in, and her sweeps rigged out on each side. Notwithstanding all this, and the beach lined with soldiers, the forts, and armed sloop, and several other small vessels near, keeping up a heavy fire of guns and musketry, those brave officers and men in the two boats persevered, and cut her cables; but it being perfectly calm, she swung and grounded on the beach, when all hopes of bringing her out were given up, and from the number killed and wounded, as per inclosed list, the commanding officer very properly ordered the boats off.

" I lament sincerely our loss; but I trust you, Sir, will think the character of British seamen was well supported on this occasion; for surely never was greater spirit displayed.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" Commodore Hood, Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c." " W. Ferris."

" *List of killed and wounded in the Blenheim's boats.*

" One seaman and two marines killed; five officers, eleven seamen (three of which severely), and three marines, wounded; three seamen missing."

" Sir, " Off St. Pierre, Martinico, Emerald, March 13th, 1804.

" I have the honour to inclose you a letter I have received from Lieutenant Forrest, first lieutenant of his Majesty's ship under my

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command, who I this morning sent, accompanied by thirty volunteers, on board the Fort Diamond armed sloop, with directions to work to windward, to enable the sloop to weather the Pearl Rock, and to bear down on an armed schooner, which had, finding it impossible to get to St. Pierre's (this ship being to leeward), anchored close in shore, under the cover of the battery at Seron. I at the same time sent the boats of this ship in a different direction, in order to take off the attention of the battery from the manœuvre in contemplation, to be performed by Lieutenant Forrest.

" It affords me particular satisfaction to bear testimony to the handsome and gallant manner in which this service was performed, Lieutenant Forrest having laid the national schooner on board under a heavy fire from her and the battery.

" In the performance of this service, great judgment was exhibited, as by the mode of doing it, a chain, by which she was fastened to the shore, was broke, twenty feet of which is now hanging to the schooner's bow. The crew of this vessel, finding it impossible to withstand British intrepidity, jumped overboard, and swam ashore, which they were enabled to do from her being moored close to it. It affords me particular pleasure to inform you, Sir, that this gallant service was performed without any loss on our part, two men only being slightly wounded. I have been rather more circumstantial in this detail than perhaps the mere capture of a privateer justifies; but I feel I should not do justice to the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Forrest, the judgment he exhibited, the brave and cool conduct of the petty officers and men under his command, which he speaks of in high terms, had I neglected relating every circumstance that took place, which has excited admiration and emulation in the breast of the spectators; and, Sir, I must beg to add, that the general conduct of this officer, ever since he has been under my command, has been such as to entitle him to my approbation. This captured schooner, whose name I can only guess at from a letter found on board, the only paper left, is the Mosambique, commanded by Citizen Vallentes, pierced for fourteen guns, ten carronades (eighteen pounders) only mounted. She is from Guadaloupe, and is fitted for a three months' cruize, to all appearance perfectly new, copper bottomed and fastened, sails apparently well, and seems calculated for the King's service.

" His Majesty's ship the Pandour hove in sight, and closed in sufficient time to send two boats to join in the diversion intended to be made by those from the ships.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" James O'Brien."

" S. Hood, Esq., Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii, p. 205.

" Sir, " Fort Diamond, March 13th.

" I have the honour to inform you, that acting according to your directions, in his Majesty's armed sloop Fort Diamond, I had the good fortune to succeed in bringing out the enemy's privateer schooner Mosambique from under the batteries contiguous to the Pearl. She is pierced for fourteen guns, and is mounted with ten eighteen-pounders. On seeing us determined to board, her crew deserted her, after discharging her broadside and musketry; and I observed about sixty Whites and Blacks in the water after I had gained possession; but as you were an eye-witness to the service, I can do no more than recommend the officers and men you did me the honour to place under my command, to your most particular notice, for their gallant and intrepid conduct while standing through the enemy's fire, and their activity and orderly behaviour after possession. I found her secured with two cables and a chain to the shore; the former we cut, and the latter she fortunately broke by the shock in boarding. I have the happiness to inform you, that we have suffered no loss.

" Mr. Hall, mate, and —— Earn, seaman, wounded.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To James O'Brien, Esq., Captain of his Majesty's ship Emerald." " Thos. Forrest."

Lieutenant Carr's Letter to Commodore Hood.

" Sir, " His Majesty's schooner L'Eclair, St. John's roads, March 10th, 1804.

" It is with great pleasure I have the honour to acquaint you, that on Tuesday the 5th instant, at two P. M., passing Englishman's Head, Guadaloupe, in his Majesty's schooner under my command, I discovered a schooner standing to the northward. On drawing near her she hoisted a red pendant, stood into the Hayes, and anchored close under the batteries. On standing in, I discovered her to be a French privateer, full of men. The wind blowing fresh on shore from the westward prevented my sending the cutter to attack her. At seven, still laying off the Hayes, it fell calm; I then proposed sending the cutter to attempt her, when Mr. Salmon, the master, volunteered this service, to which I consented, from the knowledge I had of his resolution and good conduct on former occasions; and I hope, Sir, you will be of opinion he merits the confidence placed in him. The boat, containing only ten men, himself, and the surgeon, who was also a volunteer. At two A. M. the boat returned, having captured and brought out the privateer, who commenced firing on them, as also the batteries, immediately on their entering the harbour. The boat persevered, boarded, and carried her, after a stout resistance of ten minutes from the crew, consisting, when boarded, of forty-nine men, well prepared to receive them, and obliged

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afterwards to tow and sweep her out in a dead calm, under a heavy fire from the enemy's batteries, as also the musketry from the shore. The master assures me, that the very gallant conduct of the men, together with the assistance of the surgeon, in opposition to all difficulties, enabled him to execute this service. She proves to be La Rose schooner privateer, carrying fifty men, well armed, and one long brass nine-pounder; sails extremely fast, well found, and victualled complete for three months for fifty men; just going on a cruize. I am happy to add, that no loss has been sustained on the part of the boat.

" On the part of the enemy, five men killed and ten wounded, four of whom jumped overboard, including the captain, who was wounded on the first of the attack.

" I have the honour to be,

" W. Carr."

" Sir, " Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, March 28th, 1804.

" I beg leave to enclose you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, a letter I received from Captain Younghusband, of his Majesty's sloop Osprey, giving an account of a most spirited action he fought with the Egyptienne, a French frigate of thirty-six guns and 260 men, which must certainly have fallen to his superior skill and bravery, had not she availed herself of her sailing to get away. Captain Younghusband's gallant conduct, with that of his officers and men, against such superior force, merits my warmest applause.

" This ship was formerly the Railleure, and given to the merchants of Bourdeaux, to fit out as a private ship of war; she had made several captures, one of which has been retaken by the Hippomenes. " I have the honour to be, &c.

" W. Marsden, Esq." " Samuel Hood."

" Sir, " His Majesty's sloop Osprey, Barbadoes, March 28th, 1804.

" I beg leave to inform you, that on the 23d instant I discovered four sail to the S.W. quarter; I immediately chased, and upon nearing them, I found them to be a large frigate and three merchant ships. Upon coming within hail of the frigate, she hoisted French colours, and fired her broadside, which was instantly returned, and the two ships continued in close action for an hour and twenty minutes, when the enemy ceased firing and began to make off, and her convoy to separate on different courses. I then found with regret, that she outsailed the Osprey under her top-sails upon the cap. I however continued the chase, firing our bow-chasers as long as they could reach, but we lost sight of her during the night.

" The French ship's sails, rigging, and hull, were very much

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cut. The Osprey has also suffered very much in her sails and rigging; and I am sorry to add, that we have one man killed and sixteen wounded.

"Lieutenant Collier, the officers, and ship's company, behaved with the greatest bravery and activity.

"I have further to inform you, that on the 25th, the Osprey and Hippomenes retook the ship Reliance, and I am informed from the French prize-master, that the ship the Osprey engaged was the frigate Egyptienne, fitted out as a privateer by the merchants of Bourdeaux, mounting thirty-six guns, and having on board 255 men. "I am, Sir, &c.

"G. YOUNGHUSBAND."

"SIR, "Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, March 29th, 1804.

"I have the satisfaction to send you the copy of a letter I have received from Captain Shipley, of his Majesty's sloop Hippomenes, giving an account of the capture of the Egyptienne French frigate, of thirty-six guns, by that sloop. The firmness and perseverance of Captain Shipley in the pursuit of a ship of such force, does him, the officers, and sloop's company, the highest credit; and, being well marked with judgment and decision, he so surprised the enemy, that he struck the moment the Hippomenes came alongside, after three hours' running fight. No doubt the spirited action of the Osprey contributed, of which Captain Shipley speaks in the handsomest terms. "I am, &c.

"William Marsden, Esq." "SAMUEL HOOD."

"SIR, "His Majesty's Sloop Hippomenes, March 29th, 1804.

"I have the honour to acquaint you with the capture of L'Egyptienne French privateer, (formerly a republican frigate,) mounting thirty-six guns, twelves and nines, commanded by M. Placiard, and having 240 men on board, on the evening of the 27th, after an arduous chase of fifty-four hours, and a running fight of three hours and twenty minutes, by his Majesty's sloop under my command, for she struck the moment we fairly got alongside of her. I feel much pleasure in saying, the officers and men behaved with that coolness and intrepidity inherent in Englishmen; and had the enemy allowed them a trial alongside, I am convinced her superior force would not have availed them much.

"However, I cannot forbear recommending to your protection my first lieutenant, for his good conduct on this as well as on all former occasions. The slight resistance she made I can only attribute to the fear of being as severely beat as she had been four days previous by the Osprey, who killed eight of her men and wounded nineteen, and whose gallantry astonished them. Mr. John

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Lloyd, master's mate, is the only person hurt on this occasion, and he slightly.

"I have further to inform you of the recapture of the Reliance, of London, taken by the above frigate.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"CONWAY SHIPLEY."

"SIR, "Centaur, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, March 31st, 1804.

"I herewith enclose copy of a letter from Lieutenant King, of this ship, acting in command of his Majesty's sloop Drake, giving an account of his having, with that sloop, recaptured the Enterprize, of Biddeford, loaded with camp equipage, medicines, &c. for the army; also of two of his boats, (after having drove an enemy's privateer under the batteries of L'Hayes,) commanded by the master, recaptured another ship, which the enemy abandoned.

"I also enclose copy of a letter from Captain O'Brien, of his Majesty's ship Emerald, stating Lieutenant Gregory, with the boats of that ship, having destroyed a schooner and a sloop at Port Diable, Martinico. "I have the honour to be, &c.

"W. Marsden, Esq." "SAMUEL HOOD."

"SIR, "His Majesty's sloop Drake, March 17th, 1804.

"I have the honour to acquaint you, on the morning of the 14th instant, off Englishman's Head, Guadaloupe, I fell in with a French privateer schooner, and a large ship in company, apparently her prize, but could not come up with either until the ship ran on shore near the batteries at the Hayes. I endeavoured to cut off the schooner from the protection of the fort, but was prevented doing so by its falling calm, and frequent changes of the wind, and having the main-top shot away, and the rigging much cut. Another ship appearing in the offing, and steering as if intentionally to run ashore, I made sail after her, leaving two boats, under the direction of Mr. Robson the master, to watch the ship, having perceived her to be off the shore, and to attack her should they come out, which was obviated by the enemy's abandoning her at the approach of the boats, only leaving one of their crew, who had not time to get into their boats. But I am sorry to add, when in possession of the ship more than half an hour, she blew up, by which accident, a master's mate, three seamen, and one marine, were lost. Mr. Robson, the master, expired a few hours after, and several others much bruised. The name of the ship I could not learn; she had eighteen guns mounted, and was a very large ship.

"The other ship which I recaptured proved to be the Enterprize, of Biddeford, taken by the Decidé.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"W. KING."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 70.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Emerald, off the Diamond, March 21st, 1804.

"I have the honour to inform you, that on the evening of the 20th of this month, observing a sloop and a schooner at Port-au-Diable, Lieutenant Gregory, with the boats of this ship, was directed to bring them out, which not being able to do, he set fire to and destroyed them.

"I have the honour to remain, &c.

"J. O'Brien."

"Sir, "Centaur, Diamond Rock, off Martinico, February 6th, 1804.

"I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, of the capture of the Curieux, French corvette, early in the morning of the 4th instant, of sixteen long French six-pounders, and had on board upwards of 100 men when attacked by four boats of the Centaur, containing sixty seamen and twelve marines, under the command of Lieutenant Robert Carthew Reynolds. She was lying close under Fort Edward, at the entrance of the Careenage, Fort Royal Harbour, Martinico. He boarded on the quarters in a most gallant manner, and was well aided by Lieutenant Bettesworth, and Mr. Tracey, my secretary, with the other officers and men. The enemy made a warm resistance at the first onset, but the spirited and superior valour of this brave officer and his supporters drove them forward, where a second stand was made, which was carried with equal gallantry. Her captain, Cordier, leaped overboard, after receiving two sabre wounds, and saved himself, with some of the men, in a boat that lay under her bows, and got on shore: only one French officer escaped being either killed or wounded, and he was below. Fortunately, this brilliant service was performed with only the enclosed list of wounded in the boats. I am sorry to add, Lieutenant Reynolds is of the number, severely, with five wounds; also Lieutenant Bettesworth and Mr. Tracey, though not badly.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"Sir Evan Nepean, Bart." "Samuel Hood."

"*List of wounded in the Centaur's boats.*

"Three officers and six seamen, one of which is since dead.

"*In the Curieux.* — Forty killed and wounded."[1]

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. pp. 65, 66.

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[1] *L'Ensign de Vaisseau Cheminant, to Admiral Villaret Joyeuse, Captain-General of Martinico, on board Le Curieux, captured by the English the 14th Pluviose, Year 12.*

"My General,

"The only officer remaining of those who commanded the crew of the Curieux, I owe to you a faithful detail of the cruel tragedy which has delivered us up to the enemy. Without retrospect to the pain caused by my wounds, I hasten to give you the sorrowful report, praying you to believe that it is dictated with the utmost truth.

"The 13th inst. before one o'clock in the morning, I was on deck, with a midshipman and twenty men, according

Capture of Surinam.

" To his Excellency the Governor of the colony of Surinam.

" A considerable British armament of sea and land forces being arrived in the river Surinam, we, the commanders-in-chief of the same, judge it expedient, at this crisis, to summon the colony to an immediate surrender to His Britannic Majesty's arms.

" The important situation which we now possess, with the decided

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 81.

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to orders given by Capt. Cordier; the weather was of the darkest, especially in the northern direction. Sentries were placed abaft at the ladder and forward; our boarding nettings were triced up. We had hardly perceived the English boats, before they boarded by the stern and the main shrouds; we had only time to discharge two guns with grape shot, one swivel, and a wall-piece, when the enemy were on board, and forced us to have recourse to the sabre, pike, and musketry. Assailed by numbers, and having let go a second anchor, we defended ourselves with courage, in making a most obstinate resistance, which you will perceive by the number of killed and wounded.

" The assailants were to the number of 225, according to the report of the commanding officer after the action.

" Obliged to retreat to the forecastle, and very much weakened by the crowd of wounded, the issue of the battle did not remain long uncertain; but the corvette was not carried till after all the officers and midshipmen had been put *hors de combat*, with part of the non-commissioned officers. It is to be remarked, that out of seventy fighting men that were on board, a great number were surprized in the profound sleep which is occasioned by great fatigue. The day before, twenty sailors had been employed in transporting capstans and embarking provisions, and sixteen others had been in the boat sent as flag of truce to the Diamond, and had been rowing the greatest part of the day.

" Nevertheless, during the battle all the crew were on deck, headed by their officers.

" We have thirty wounded, and all with more than one scar.

" Of the staff, one midshipman alone remains unhurt.

" The valorous Captain Cordier is no more; I saw him thrown into the sea. His second has had the happiness of revenging his death: the Englishman who tore him from us was precipitated in his turn.

" Jolly, that brave officer, is covered with five wounds, the least of which is a ball.

" Clement is dead; independent of a cut of a sabre in the head, he was thrown in the 'tween decks, and his loins broken.

" Bourgonniere, midshipman of the first class, died twelve hours after the action, in agonies difficult to describe: he had eleven apparent wounds.

" Drinot, midshipman of the second class, has the thumb separated from the right hand, with three large wounds; he behaved like a hero, and supports with the same courage the pain he endures. Siriaque, another midshipman, has two sabre wounds on the head and arm.

" The most mutilated of our non-commissioned officers are the carpenter and gunner. The sail-maker was thrown overboard, and twenty sailors are on the biers, having each several wounds.

" Shall I speak to you of myself? Alas! my general, I have paid my debt. Remaining alone of all the officers, I sustained with bravery the honour of the corps; but the efforts that I made ill answered my wishes; and the despair of having suffered the corvette to be carried adds to the sufferings caused by three wounds. If my name is tarnished, my conscience remains. I shall not boast of having dispatched the chief of the expedition; for this I was closely watched on the deck for three hours, by four men. The only thing notorious was the capture of the corvette, and possibly the shame of the officers who belonged to her.

" Judge us now, my general, but pity our misfortunes. It is on the bed of sorrow that I write this report.

" My being kept on deck permitted me to remark the manœuvres of the enemy. After having cut the cables and made sail, they dispatched a part of their boats with the wounded men and some of their people, which I perceived to reach, at four o'clock in the morning, the third English man of-war at Cape Salomon. I render justice to the English; they not only afforded the last military honours to the midshipman superiority of our force, must, in case resistance be attempted, ensure a speedy and favourable issue to our operations; but the motives which have chiefly actuated his Majesty in sending this expedition, and upon the principles of which we are directed to govern our conduct, induce us to propose a capitulation so highly beneficial to the interests of the colony of Surinam, as to leave little doubt on our minds of being joyfully accepted.

" But if, contrary to our well-founded expectations, the offers we now make should be rejected, it becomes us to state, in the clearest manner, that the effusion of blood, and all the calamities of war, in particular the destruction and ruin brought upon private property, which will be the inevitable consequence, must be attributed to you, and not to us.

" Being desirous to evince our inclination to allow every possible indulgence to the colony, consistent with our duty, and knowing it may require some time to assemble the constituted authorities for their decision, we are willing to wait twelve hours' time for your answer, and, at the expiration of which, should you not accede to our proposals, we shall consider it incumbent upon us to proceed to such further measures as our instructions point out.

" Dated on board his Majesty's ship Centaur, off Bram's Point, April 27th, 1804.

" CHARLES GREEN,
" SAM. HOOD."

Terms proposed.

" Art. 1. The colony of Surinam to be surrendered in twenty-four hours, to the arms and protection of the British government.

" 2. The inhabitants of the colony shall enjoy full security for their persons, and the free exercise of their religion, with the immediate and entire possession of their private property, whether on shore or afloat.

" 3. The laws of the colony, as they existed at the period of its being given up to the British government, shall remain in force until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known; but this article is not meant to restrict his Majesty's representative from making such temporary regulations as may appear to him absolutely necessary for the security and defence of the colony; nor must it be construed to militate against such establishments as may be neces-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 82.

Bourgonniere, but they afforded the most particular assistance to the wounded, and not the value of a handkerchief was taken from the crew.

" This is, general, the detail of our disaster, and believe it is with the utmost grief I state it to you. Believe the truth it contains; it will be at least a comfort to us, and in particular to,

" My General,
" Your very humble servant,
(Signed) " CHEMINANT.

" True copy,
(Signed) " VILLARET, Capt.-Gen."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 382.

sary for regulating the commerce of the colony, agreeable to the practice in the British West India possessions.

" 4. The different persons at present employed in the civil administration of the colony shall all of them, the governor excepted, continue in office, provided they take the oath of allegiance and fidelity to the British government, and that their conduct is such as to afford no reasonable ground for suspecting their submission thereto.

" 5. All ships of war, artillery, provisions, and stores, in the public magazines and warehouses, as well as the effects of every description belonging to the Batavian government, shall be given up to His Britannic Majesty in the state they now are, regular lists being immediately taken by officers appointed for the purpose by each of the contracting parties.

" 6. The Batavian troops in the different garrisons of this colony are to surrender as prisoners of war, to remain so until exchanged or released; they are to deliver up their arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, to the persons appointed to receive them; they will be allowed all the usual honours of war; and the officers and men will be allowed to retain their private baggage.

" 7. The fort of New Amsterdam is to be delivered up to the British troops before the expiration of twenty-four hours, stipulated in the first article, and all the other forts and batteries in the colony are to be surrendered as soon as possible.

" On board his Majesty's ship Centaur, off Bram's Point, the 27th of April, 1804.

" C. Green,
" Sam. Hood."

The commissioner-general replied, —

" Gentlemen,

" The proposals which you have made to me are such as I cannot accept.

" I give you this information that you may regulate yourselves accordingly.

" P. Berranger."

" Plantation Noerbury, April 28th, 1804."

The British Commander's Answer.

" On board his Majesty's ship Emerald, April 28th, 1804.

" Sir,

" We have had the honour to receive your answer to our summons of yesterday's date, by which it appears that you refuse to accept the terms of capitulation we have proposed; and as on your part no proposals are made, we shall consider ourselves at liberty to act accordingly.

" We have the honour to be, &c.

" Charles Green,
" Samuel Hood."

" To his Excellency the Governor
of the Colony of Surinam."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 80.

Sir Charles Green made preparations for landing the forces. Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley, of the engineers, was landed on the 29th, to procure intelligence. On his return he reported, that he believed there was a practicable way through the woods, by which a body of men might be conducted to the rear of the Forts Leyden and Frederica. Two hundred men were accordingly landed, between ten and eleven that night, at Resolution plantation, and proceeded through the woods with Negro guides. The late rains had rendered the path (at all times difficult) almost impassable. After a most laborious march of five hours, the detachment arrived near the rear of Frederica battery. The alarm was given, and a fire of grape-shot opened upon the troops before they could form for the attack; as they advanced they were exposed to musketry, but the assault was made with fixed bayonets and firm hearts; and the enemy fled before them, and took shelter in Fort Leyden, leaving a lighted match in the powder magazine, which blew up, and killed several officers and men. This disgraceful trick was practised by the enemy in many instances during the war, and is another of those crimes which will hand down to posterity the character of the revolutionary officers.

Fort Leyden was attacked by the exasperated conquerors, and its defenders received that quarter from their victorious hands, which their own conduct had destroyed all right to expect. From this position Fort New Amsterdam could be bombarded, and preparations were made to attack that fortress. But on the 4th of May, the commanding officer of the Batavian troops sent proposals to surrender on terms of capitulation.[1] Hostilities were immediately

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 194. Official Papers.

[1] *The English Commander's Answer.*

"To Lieutenant-Colonel B. A. Batenburg, commanding the Batavian troops in the colony of Surinam.

"Sir,

"We have had the honour to receive the proposals upon which you offer to capitulate, and to each article, as specified by you, we have sent our answer, and for any further arrangements we refer you to Lieutenanant-Colonel Shipley, of the Royal Engineers, and Captain Maxwell, of the Royal Navy, the bearer of this."

"The Lieutenant-Colonel-in-Chief of the 5th battalion of Batavian Chasseurs, commanding the troops in the colony of Surinam, to the Commanders-in-Chief of the land and sea forces of His Britannic Majesty, in and near the river Surinam.

"Gentlemen,

"The force with which I have for a considerable time been expecting to be attacked, has not caused in me any deviation from the duty I owe to my country.

"But with a view to the interests of the inhabitants of this colony, and of the brave troops under my command, for which I have to answer to the Batavian republic, for an honourable capitulation, I am induced to propose to you the following articles.

"Art. 1. That the garrison shall retain their arms and their baggage, and march out with all the honours of war.

"Ans. The garrison shall be allowed to march out with the usual honours of war. The officers to retain their side-arms, and the officers and soldiers their private baggage, but the soldiers must lay down their arms.

"2. That the garrison shall be sent over within four weeks, to some port of the Batavian republic; all at the expence of His Britannic Majesty.

"Ans. Granted; or as soon as proper vessels for that purpose can be provided.

suspended until the conditions were agreed upon. Lieutenant-Colonel Shipley, and Captain Maxwell, of the navy, were deputed to settle them.

Annual Register, 1804, p. 194. Official Papers.

"3. That they shall be allowed, as soon as they arrive, to serve under the Batavian republic, but not against His Britannic Majesty, nor any of his allies.

"Ans. Granted.

"4. Fort New Amsterdam, and the other posts, together with the magazine and stores in this colony, shall be delivered up to Commissioners, to be nominated on both sides, to commence within forty-eight hours from the signing of the capitulation.

"Ans. The principal gates and barriers of Fort New Amsterdam must be put in possession of the British forces at two o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

"The remainder of this article is agreed to.

"5. That none of the troops under my command shall be engaged into the service of His Britannic Majesty.

"Ans. His Britannic Majesty receives no other soldiers but such as voluntarily enter into his service.

"6. All the articles proposed in the late summons, to the advantage of the inhabitants, shall be fulfilled.

"Ans. His Majesty having instructed us to favour the colony of Surinam as much as possible, we are willing to grant it the same terms as first proposed.

"7. Women and children, and all persons whatever, annexed to the garrison, shall be comprehended in this capitulation, and enjoy all the advantages attached to it.

"Ans. Granted.

"Flattering myself that I shall be honoured with your answer, I remain with the greatest respect,

"Gentlemen,

"Your servant,

"B. A. Batenburg."

Additional article proposed on the part of His Britannic Majesty.

"It is to be clearly understood, that all the ships, vessels, and boats employed in the colony, in the service of the Batavian republic, are to be delivered up at the same hour as specified in the 4th article, for the delivering up of the principal gates and barriers of Fort New Amsterdam, the officers and men to be placed on the same footing as those of the army.

"Two hours will be granted for your consideration of these articles.

"Head-quarters of the army, six o'clock afternoon, May 4th, 1804.

"Charles Green, Maj.-Gen.
"Samuel Hood, Commodore."

Lieutenant-Colonel Batenburg then replied to the British commanders.

"Gentlemen,

"I am highly honoured with the answer which you sent me this evening to the proposal which I have made, and am satisfied with the same, with a few exceptions, which, with some additions, I now offer for your consideration.

"Art. 1. That all the Batavian troops, occuping the posts in this colony, shall be comprehended in the terms of this capitulation, and that immediate orders be given to them to surrender the same to the British troops.

"Ans. Agreed, so far as relates to the Batavian troops, occupying posts not yet captured by the British forces.

"2. All that relates to the White and Black corps of chasseurs, shall be arranged with the colonial government.

"Ans. Agreed.

"3. With regard to the fourth article, a farther delay of twenty-four hours is required.

"Ans. The principal gates and barriers of Fort New Amsterdam must be put in possession of the British troops at four o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The barracks to remain occupied by the Batavian troops until they are embarked.

"4. That the corps remain entire, under the command of their respective officers. They shall receive all arrears of pay due to them from the Batavian government.

"Ans. The disposition of the Batavian troops on board the ships which may carry them to Holland, must be left to Commodore Hood. Certainly all arrears of pay due to them to be paid as heretofore, but without any claim on the British government.

"5. It is to be understood that the Batavian troops, already prisoners of war, and in the power of His Britannic Majesty, shall, equally with the others, enjoy all the privileges of this capitulation.

"Ans. Refused.

"6. That the officers of the Batavian garrison, immediately on delivering up

Commodore Hood's Report.

" His Majesty's ship Emerald, in Surinam
River, the 6th of May.

" SIR,

" I have the honour to inform you, I arrived off this river in the Centaur, with the Pandour, Serapis, Alligator, Hippomenes, Drake, Unique armed schooner, and transports, having on board near two thousand troops, under Major-General Sir Charles Green, on

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 80.

of their posts, shall be allowed to go on their parole, during their stay in this colony, to Paramaribo, or elsewhere in the country, having previously obtained leave from Colonel Batenburg.

" 7. That all necessaries of clothing, such as cloth and linen pantaloons, shoes, stockings, &c. now due from the Batavian government, shall be issued to them out of the public stores, before their departure from this colony.

" ANS. Agreed.

" B. A. BATENBURG."

" Head-quarters, Fort New
Amsterdam, May 4, 1804."

" On the part of Major-General Sir Charles Green and Commodore Hood,

" CHARLES SHIPLEY, Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding Royal Engineers, W. I.

" MURRAY MAXWELL, Capt. R.N.

" Ratified, " CHARLES GREEN,
" SAMUEL HOOD."

Articles of Capitulation agreed upon between the Commandant of the Batavian Ships in the West Indies, H. D. Bloys Van Treslong, commanding the Frigate Proserpine, lying opposite Fort New Amsterdam, in the Colony of Surinam, and the Commanders-in Chief of the Land and Sea Forces of His Britannic Majesty, lying near the Forts Purmurent and Leyden, in the River Surinam.

Extract from the Capitulation between Lieutenant-Colonel Batenburg and the Commanders of His Britannic Majesty's Forces.

" It is to be clearly understood, that all the ships, vessels and boats employed in the colony in the service of the Batavian republic, are to be delivered up at the same hour as specified in the fourth article for the delivering up of the principal gates and barriers of Fort New Amsterdam; the officers and men to be placed on the same footing as those of the army.

" The commandant of the Batavian ships in this colony, on considering the capitulation between Colonel Batenburg and the commanders of His Britannic Majesty's land and sea forces, whereby Fort New Amsterdam and its dependencies are to be surrendered to the forces of His Britannic Majesty, is induced to offer the following conditions:

" ART. 1. There are at present in this colony no ships belonging to the Batavian republic, except the frigate Proserpine and a corvette, the latter captured from the English at the commencement of the war, and which, not being condemned, cannot be said to whom it may yet belong.

" ANS. As it may hereafter be decided.

" 2. The three merchant ships and the schooner George, with their cargoes, are private property, and consequently come under the stipulation of the sixth article of the terms proposed in the summons concerning the colony.

" ANS. As it may hereafter be decided, being called private property by Commodore Bloys.

" 3. The frigate Proserpine, and sloop of war Pylades, shall to-morrow, at four o'clock in the afternoon, be put in possession of His Britannic Majesty's forces.

" ANS. Agreed. The frigate Proserpine and sloop of war Pylades to be delivered up at four o'clock to-morrow afternoon, in the same state they now are.

" 4. The private property of the commandant, officers, and crew, including the provisions and effects in the naval hospital, where they now stand, shall be retained, to secure which the necessary assistance to be given on the part of the British.

" ANS. Agreed.

" 5. The commandant, officers, and crew of the two ships before mentioned shall be sent, within the period of four weeks, to some port of the Batavian Republic, at the expence of His Britannic Majesty.

" ANS. Agreed.

" 6. The commandant and officers shall be allowed, on leaving the ships, to wear the 25th ultimo, after a passage of twenty days, from Barbadoes; when immediate measures were taken to send a division of the army, of about seven hundred men, to land at Warapa Creek, under the command of Brigadier-General Maitland, the direction of which was left to Captain Shipley, of the Hippomenes, who, with that sloop, a transport, and three armed vessels, landed the troops on the night of the 30th, assisted by Captain M'Kenzie, of his Majesty's sloop Gauchapin, who had, with great zeal, quitted his sloop fifty leagues to leeward, with all her boats, on finding, from baffling winds and currents, she could not get up.

"That no time should be lost, Brigadier-General Hughes was ordered on board the Pandour, to endeavour to gain possession, the next night (26th), off Bram's Point, and instructions sent to Captain O'Brien, then lying off the bar, in the Emerald, to carry this service, in concert with the brigadier, into execution. He, with his usual intrepidity, lost not a moment, but, as the tide flowed, pushed in over the bar, and anchored close to the battery of seven eighteen pounders, followed by Captains Nash and Ferris, in the Pandour and Drake. The fort commenced a brisk fire on the Emerald, but was silenced by a few broadsides, after the ships had anchored, without any loss on our side. In it were captured forty-three officers and men, three of whom were wounded.

"Not being able to approach nearer in the Centaur, the general and myself the next morning removed to this ship, at the entrance of the river; and, having summoned the colony, the answer was received, containing a refusal of the terms. The moment, therefore, the tide served, every effort was made to get up the river, which, from the shallowness of the water, was very difficult, the Emerald having passed through the mud in three feet less than she drew; and it was not till last night we were enabled to get her to this station near the forts, from the lowness of the tides.

"The officers of engineers having explored the road through the woods close to the battery of Frederici, which communicated with Leyden redoubt, an attack was made, on the morning of the

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 80.

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their side arms, and also the flag and standard to fly until the same are evacuated; and the commandant, officers, and crew, shall, on their arrival in Holland, be permitted to serve, but not against His Britannic Majesty or his allies.

"Ans. Agreed.

"7. The commandant and officers shall be permitted, after they have surrendered, to go to Paramaribo to settle their affairs, and also to enjoy the same privileges as granted to the officers of the army.

"Ans. Agreed.

"Dated at Fort New Amsterdam the 4th of May, half-past eleven, P. M. 1804.

"H. D. Bloys Van Treslong."

"On the part of Major-General Sir Charles Green and Commodore Hood,

"Charles Shipley, Lieutenant-Colonel, commanding Royal Engineers, W. I.

"Murray Maxwell, Capt. R.N.

"Ratified, "Charles Green, Major-General.

"Sam. Hood, Commodore."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. pp. 83, 84, 85.

30th, by a detachment of troops, under Brigadier-General Hughes, conducted in the boats by Captain Maxwell of the Centaur, and Captains Ferris and Richardson. They landed at Plantation Resolution, and, after a tedious march through woods and swamps, the brigadier and detachment, accompanied by the two first-named captains, with some officers and about thirty seamen, carried the battery of Frederici; and, though the enemy blew up the magazine, by which many of our brave people suffered on entering the work, they were not delayed in passing a causeway of 700 yards, with five pieces of cannon bearing thereon, and carried the redoubt of Leyden in a few minutes. The gallant conduct of the brigadier, his officers and men, will no doubt be sufficiently set forth by the major-general, but it is impossible to do justice to their merit: and the brigadier has spoken in the handsomest terms of Captain Maxwell, who commanded the seamen, and Captain Ferris, who led on with the advanced party, as well as all the officers and men; and Captain Richardson, left ready to support them in the boats, gave every aid to secure the posts.

"I subjoin a list of killed and wounded. Amongst the number belonging to the Centaur, I am sorry to add, is Lieutenant Smith, mortally; Lieutenants King and Henderson, severely; and Mr. Shuldem, midshipman, killed; Lieutenant Brand of the Unique is also severely wounded.

"Brigadier-General Maitland having come down the river Commowina, and the ships all got up near Frederici, with the troops advancing, and the enemy's communication nearly intercepted by the activity of our armed boats, as well as provisions, stores, and cannon, prepared for attacking Fort New Amsterdam, yesterday the Batavian commandant, Lieutenant-Colonel Batenburg, thought proper to send a flag of truce, when a capitulation was soon after signed.

"Commodore Bloys Van Treslong, on our claiming the surrender of the ships, entered into the terms. He had placed Proserpine, of thirty-two guns, eighteen pounders, near to Fort New Amsterdam, and extended a line of defence across the river, with the Pylades, corvette of eighteen guns, at the other extreme, about a mile above the redoubt Purmurent; the merchantmen in the centre, from eight to twelve guns, and a schooner of ten guns, employed to reconnoitre, and cover the shore to Voorburg, should our troops have attempted to advance by that side; besides seven gun boats, stationed as occasion required.

"The indefatigable zeal of Captains O'Brien and Nash, in arranging and forwarding the supplies, and Captains Maxwell, Ferris, Waring, and Richardson, in giving aid to the army, as well as Captain Kempt, agent for transports, claims my warmest

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 80.

applause, as does that of Captain Shipley, in landing Brigadier-General Maitland's division, and Captain M'Kenzie, for his services with fifty seamen, in aiding that part of the army, on their route from the Warapa Creek. It is with much satisfaction I relate, that the co-operation of the army and navy employed on this expedition has been carried on with an eager emulation to assist each other, which indeed could but be expected, from the cordial measures adopted by Major-General Sir Charles Green.

" Captain Maxwell will have the honour to deliver this dispatch, and from the able manner he has conducted himself, as my captain, will, I am confident, give their lordships every satisfactory information. " I have the honour, &c.

" SAMUEL HOOD."

" Total, five killed and eight wounded."

" SIR, " His Majesty's sloop Pelican, Port Royal, June 10th, 1804.

" With the greatest regret, I take the liberty of informing you, that yesterday evening, at five o'clock, Morant Bay N. E. four or five leagues, seeing a Spanish schooner bearing down before the wind, made sail to speak her. At half past five, Captain Baker hailed her, and told them to put their helm a-port, and heave to. They, either not understanding, or not wishing to obey the command, put the helm the contrary way. Our heaving all back to keep clear of her rendered our ship ungovernable; in which situation the schooner unfortunately fell on board of us on the starboard bow, where she remained for several minutes, carried away our sprit-sail-yard, her own bowsprit, and her larboard quarter stove to the water's edge. Captain Baker, with that ardour so conspicuous at all times in succouring the distressed, jumped on board the schooner, followed by Lieutenant Davis, Mr. Butts, the gunner, and several of the seamen. The vessels separated, and, with their assistance, every person belonging to the schooner got safe on board the Pelican. On the vessels separating, the schooner dropt astern. I immediately sent a boat on board to bring them from the schooner, she apparently having at that time sunk more than one-half her top-sides in the water. Captain Baker, anxious to see every person safe before he quitted the vessel, sent the whole of the people in our boat, except himself, Lieutenant Davis, and four men, whom he desired immediately to launch the schooner's boat over the side, which they did, and all got into her. At the moment of shoving off, the schooner gave a heavy roll, filled, and in the act of sinking, caught the boat Captain Baker was in under her main-stay, and took her to the bottom; though every effort was made on my part, and every other person on board the Pelican, no signs of them could be seen afterwards. Thus ended the life

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 87.

of that most worthy and promising officer, whose loss will ever be regretted by, Sir, with the greatest respect,

"Your devoted humble servant,

"W. S. Foley, Second Lieutenant."

"To Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B., &c. &c."

Vice-Admiral Sir John Thomas Duckworth to William Marsden, Esq.

"Sir, "Port Royal, August 26th.

"You will herewith receive, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copies of two letters, reciting the capture of the Hirondelle and Vautour French privateers, by his Majesty's ships Tartar and Fortunée; the former of which, I trust, their lordships will think with me, does high honour to the officers and crews of the Tartar's boats, for their undaunted spirit and perseverance. "I am, &c.

"J. T. Duckworth."

"Sir, "H. M. S. Tartar, off St. Domingo, August 1st.

"I have the honour to acquaint you, that yesterday morning, at dawn, standing into leeward of Saona, a small sail was discovered from the mast heads, to which I immediately gave chase, keeping as close to leeward of the island as possible, in order to prevent her escape that way, knowing the channel between that island (Saona) and St. Domingo to be very narrow and intricate, even for small vessels. About seven, the chase made out to be a schooner, full of men, using her sweeps and every means possible to get off; from which circumstance, supposing her to be a privateer, and perceiving her intention of attempting to escape through the before-mentioned channel, I made all possible sail, and at eight o'clock got her within reach of the guns, which, from the short tacks I was obliged to make, was prevented from using to that advantage and effect I could have wished, without losing ground; therefore, though several shot went over and through her sails, she still persevered in beating to windward until she had advanced near the centre of the channel, where, finding it impossible to proceed further, she came to an anchor under a reef of rocks; at which time, (ten in the fore-noon,) having beat the ship up into six fathoms water, but deeming it imprudent to proceed further, and finding it would be almost impossible to destroy the vessel with the great guns, not being able to anchor, or to bring the broadsides to bear to advantage, from the short tacks we were obliged to make, without hazard to the ship; yet, judging it of importance to take or destroy the vessel by some means or other, I immediately hoisted three boats out, and sent them manned and armed under the direction of Lieutenant Mullah (second lieutenant), assisted by Lieutenant

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 318.

Lockyer (third), with several midshipmen, all volunteers on the occasion.

" The instant the boats put off from the ship, the schooner hoisted French colours, fired a gun, and warped her broadside towards them. As the boats advanced, the privateer commenced firing grape from her great guns, and on their nearer approach, opened a fire of musketry; yet notwithstanding, and a strong sea-breeze against the boats, Lieutenant Mullah, in the most intrepid and gallant manner possible, pulled up in the face of several discharges of grape, and a heavy fire of musketry from fifty men drawn up round the deck, boarded and carried her. It is impossible to speak too highly, or sufficiently to express my sense of the bravery and intrepid conduct of Lieutenants Mullah and Lockyer, as well as the petty officers, seamen, and marines employed under them, considering the disadvantage under which they were obliged to attack, and the preparation the enemy had made for defence, being nearly noon-day; nor can I too much commend the spirit and alacrity with which they volunteered their services on the occasion, as well as the whole of the ship's company.

" I am happy to add, that only two men were wounded, one seaman and one marine (badly). The French lost nine killed, and six wounded, besides three missing, supposed to have been drowned in attempting to swim on shore. The wounded I sent to St. Domingo, by a flag of truce this morning; the remainder I kept on board, there being no English prisoners to exchange in lieu. The privateer proves to be the Hirondelle, Captain La Place, with ten four-pounders and fifty men, and two days out from St. Domingo. She had run most of the last war, and all the present, frequently chased; but from her fast sailing always escaped. " I am, &c.

" KEITH MAXWELL."

Letter from M. Riviere to the Transport Board.

" GENTLEMEN,

" His excellency the minister of marine and the colonies having been informed that the garrison and crews of the vessels which evacuated the Cape in consequence of the convention agreed to on board the Surveillante, 30th November, 1803, are detained prisoners in England, has ordered me, for the under-mentioned reasons, to claim in his name, the return to France of those garrisons and crews, conformably to the second article of the said convention. It is as follows:—' The garrison of the Cape embarked on board the ships, and the crews of those ships, shall be prisoners of war, and sent to Europe as soon as posssible, upon their parole not to serve before they are exchanged,' &c. It is conceived that the spirit

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 203.

of that article required the greatest exactness in the drawing up of it, and that the word France should be substituted for the word Europe. But it would be offensive to the character of the English nation to suppose that its government could avail itself of a want of precision in the word, to infringe a capitulation, whose spirit is so explicitly developed by the very conditions which those who have capitulated have subscribed. In fact, if the spirit and intentions of the capitulation had not been that the garrison and crews, who were prisoners of war, should be sent to France as soon as possible, instead of being detained in England, it is evident that their being sent to Europe would not have been submitted to this condition, 'to give their parole not to serve without being exchanged.'

"No doubt the soldiers, whom the events of war have forced to abandon the post which they defended, and those to whom they have been obliged to yield, have frankly and openly conceived, on both sides, the spirit of the conditions they subscribed, without discussing grammatically the expressions of them. They could not suppose that a discussion upon words could take place afterwards upon an object so completely developed by the essential condition of the second article.

"His excellency thinks then, that if the British government think themselves authorized to detain in England the troops and crews who capitulated at the Cape, it is because they have not fixed their attention upon the second article of the capitulation, and particularly upon these essential expressions, 'and shall be sent to Europe, with their parole, not to serve until exchanged.'

"His excellency has ordered me to request you to submit this important consideration to the lords of the admiralty, and he cannot but believe that the conduct he would adopt, in a similar situation, to conform to the evident spirit of the capitulation, will be that which their lordships will not hesitate to adopt. He observes, that the miseries of war are of themselves severe enough for those, who by their situations have so powerful an influence upon the lot of humanity, not to endeavour, on either side, to aggravate them by evasion, or discussions unworthy of their public character.

"It has been mentioned to his excellency, that some persons in England have supposed, that prisoners of war sent back to France on parole have been employed without having been exchanged. Without dwelling upon an allegation which has only reached him indirectly, his excellency has directed me to make known to you, that no infraction of that nature has taken place.

"I have submitted to him the representation you requested me to lay before him upon the treatment of prisoners of war detained in France.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv, p. 205.

"Some correspondence which his excellency has had occasion to enter into recently with prisoners of distinction have not induced him to conceive that any complaint exists upon the subject, yet as their police depends upon the minister of war, he has written to the marshal of the empire, who is charged with that department, that he may inquire into your complaint if it be well founded; and as soon as I receive his reply, you shall be informed of the real state of affairs.

"You may, gentlemen, in the meantime, be assured that none of the duties which humanity prescribes in favour of prisoners of war shall be neglected; for such is his Imperial Majesty's formal intention.

"I am, &c.

"Riviere."

This is another specimen of the manner in which Englishmen are outwitted in their negociations. Commodore Bligh's letter was enclosed in the answer of the English government. The letter says, "that the terms proposed to him by the French officers at St. Domingo were accepted with exceptions, and that General Boyer and Captain Barre gave him their word of honour, that upon their arrival at Jamaica they would change the capitulation conformably to his observations. By the capitulation it was never understood that the parole extended to others than the officers, and that by the return to Europe was meant the return to England, in order to be exchanged without delay. Captain Bligh's statement is certified by Captain Parker, Lieutenant Macdonald, and Mr. Wrottesley." The answer of the English government contains what follows: — "Upon the statement of Captain Bligh, Lord Camden directs me to make the following observations:

First, it appears that in a moment the most critical to the French garrison, all possibility of their escape cut off, their position being such that their falling a sacrifice to the vengeance of the inhabitants of St. Domingo was inevitable, no time being allowed for consideration and adjustment of the terms and niceties of a formal capitulation, a paper of articles already prepared by the French commanding officer was presented to Captain Bligh, who, actuated by motives of generosity and compassion, immediately consented thereto, with certain modifications, and with great difficulty induced General Dessalines also to consent to them, which modifications (as there was not time to reduce them into regular written terms) the French commanders, in the presence of Captain Bligh and three of his officers, promised, on their honour, to ratify as soon as they should arrive at Jamaica. Secondly, on the faith of this promise thus fully and distinctly given in the presence of four British officers, who certify the fact, the French garrison were received under the protection of his Majesty's squadron, and

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 205.

removed from certain immediate destruction; but as soon as by these means they were placed in a state of security, they retracted their promise, and refused to ratify the very engagements by which they were saved." The dispatch then states, "that so soon as a number of British prisoners, equal in number and proportionate in rank to the garrison of St. Lucia, shall be sent to England, a proportion of the garrison which capitulated at Cape François shall be sent to France, in order to be exchanged."

Upon the 12th of December, 1804, war was declared by Spain against England. The declaration was dated at Madrid, "omitting," it states, "the formalities of style by a solemn declaration and publication, owing to the English cabinet's having begun and continued to make the war without declaring it."

Upon the 12th of December, 1804, the house of assembly of Jamaica, in consequence of the governor's speech at the preceding prorogation, came to several resolutions, among others to the following:

"That the assumption of any branch of the legislature of a right to animadvert in any manner upon this house, in the exercise of its rightful powers, as a component part of the same legislature, and more especially in matters of supply, is unconstitutional, and if submitted to would destroy the independence of this house and the legislative constitution of the island."

The same day Lieutenant-General Nugent, the governor of Jamaica, sent to inform the speaker of the house of assembly that his Majesty in council disallowed the act passed by that house in December 1802, for preventing preaching by persons not duly qualified, and had sent the draft of another bill for that purpose.

Upon the 17th of December, the house in a committee resolved, nem. con., "that any attempt of the board of lords of trade and plantations to his Majesty, or any other board, to direct or influence the proceedings of this house in matters of internal regulation, by any previous proposition or decision on what is referred to, or under their consideration and deliberation, is an interference with the appropriate functions of the house, which it is their bounden duty never to submit to."

Dr. Coke says, "By this repeal or disallowal of the law which shut up the Baptist and Scotch churches, imprisoned Mr. Williams, deprived the Negroes of the means of grace, stopped the mouths of all our local teachers, and banished Mr. Campbell from the island, the rights of conscience were again restored." It also proves "that justice and toleration have uniformly distinguished the conduct of our gracious sovereign, since the providence of God raised him to the British throne."

The number of Methodists in society, in St. Vincent's, was 2160

Annual Register, 1805, pp. 183. 195.
Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 458.

coloured people and Blacks, and nine Whites; this number was less than in the preceding year, because tickets had been refused to many on account of their lukewarmness.

The French planters had carried several slaves with them to America; unable either to maintain or to sell them there, they were left to provide for themselves. This induced Dessalines to issue the following proclamation:—

"Liberty or Death.

"Government of Hayti, head-quarters, January 14th, 1804, first year of the independence of Hayti.

"The governor-general, considering that a great number of native Blacks and men of colour are suffering in the United States for want of means of returning, decrees, that there shall be allowed to the captains of American vessels the sum of forty dollars for each individual they may restore to this country. He orders that this decree shall be printed, published, and posted up, and that a copy thereof be immediately forwarded to the congress of the United States.

"By the Governor-General, DESSALINES."

"The General-in-Chief to the people of Hayti. First year of the independence of the people of Hayti.

"CITIZENS, FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,

"I have, in this solemn circumstance, assembled the brave soldiers who have shed their blood for the cause of liberty; those generous men who have guided your efforts against tyranny have not yet done enough for your happiness. Every thing which here retraces the remembrance of the French name, reminds us of the cruelties of the homicide people. Our laws, our manners, our town, every thing bear the impression of France. What! do I say there still remain Frenchmen in our island? Victims, alas! during fourteen years, of our own credulity, of our indulgence,—subdued, not by the arms of the French, but by the awful eloquence of the proclamations of their agents,—when shall we, in fine, be tired of breathing the same air as they? What affinity do we bear to that murderous people? Their cruelty, compared with our patient moderation, the difference of their colour from ours, the immensity of seas which separate us from them, our vengeful climate, every thing tells us that those men are not our brothers, that they will never become so, and that if they find an asylum among us, they will continue to sow troubles and dissensions here. Citizens, inhabitants of Hayti, men, women, girls, children, cast your eyes upon each of the points of this island, seek in it, you your wives, you your husbands, you your sisters.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 526.
Annual Register, 1804, p. 192.

What do I say?—seek in it your children on the breast!—what is become of them?—they have become the prey of those vultures! In the place of those interesting victims, your eyes behold only their assassins, only tigers still glutted with their blood, and whose frightful presence upbraids you with your insensibility, your slowness to avenge them. Why delay to appease their manes? Do you hope that your remains can rest in peace with those of your fathers, as long as you shall not have made tyranny disappear? What! the ashes of your relations are in the grave, and you have not avenged them;—their bones will push away yours with disdain. Learn, citizens, that you have done nothing, if you do not give to nations a terrible, but just example, of the vengeance which should be exercised by a brave people, who have recovered their liberty, and who are jealous to maintain it. Let us frighten those who should dare to attempt to ravish it from us, and let us begin by the French.

"March 30th." (Signed) "DESSALINES."

In compliance with Dessalines' proclamations, an indiscriminate massacre of the white inhabitants, in the French part of St. Domingo, commenced on the 29th of April, and continued till the 14th of May. Two thousand five hundred persons are reported to have been murdered during that time; neither the infirmity of age, nor the innocence of childhood was spared, and the work of destruction ceased only because no victims remained. From St. Jago and the interior, the Whites were sent to the Cape, and there massacred.

Dreading that pestilence might be occasioned by the multitude of carcasses, Dessalines ordered them to be buried.[*]

"Liberty or death.

"Indigenous army of St. Domingo.

"This day, the 1st of January, 1804, the general-in-chief of the indigenous army, attended by the generals, chiefs of the army, being required to take measures tending to the welfare of the country, after having made known to the generals assembled his real intentions to secure for ever, to the native inhabitants of Hayti, a stable government, the object of his most lively solicitude. This he has done by an address, which will make known to foreign powers the resolution of making this country independent, and of enjoying a liberty consecrated by the blood of the people of this island. After having collected their sentiments, and required from every general assembled an oath to renounce France for ever, to die sooner than live under her dominion, to fight to the last breath for independence, the generals, deeply impressed with these sacred principles, after having, with one voice, shown their assent to the declared object of independence, swore every one to posterity, and to the whole universe, to renounce France for ever, and to die rather than live under her dominion.

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[*] Annual Register, 1804, pp. 190. 301.

"Done at Gonaives, the 1st of January, 1804, and the first day of the independence of Hayti.

(Signed) "Dessalines, General-in-Chief.

"Gabard Christophe, Black; Geffiad, Mulatto; Vernet, Mulatto; Petevi, Mulatto; Clairveaux, Mulatto, general of division; Capoix, Black; L. Herne; P. Roucein, Black; Egerin, Black; L. François, Black; Guage, Mulatto; Feron, Mulatto; Yayou, Black; Toussaint Brove, Black; Magloire Ambrose, Black; E. Bazelais, Mulatto, general of brigade."

Then follow the signatures of the adjutant-generals, chiefs of brigade and other officers.

"In the name of the people of Hayti: —

"We, generals and chiefs of the armies of Hayti, penetrated with gratitude for the benefits we have received from the general-in-chief, Jean Jacques Dessalines, the protector of the liberty which the people enjoy, in the name of liberty, in the name of independence, in the name of the people he has made happy, we proclaim him governor-general for life of Hayti. We swear to submit implicitly to the laws emanating from his authority. We give to him the right to make peace and war, and to name his successor.

"Done at head-quarters, Gonaives, the 1st of January, 1804, and the first day of the independence of Hayti."

Signed the same as the preceding.

In March, Dessalines, with 22,000 Blacks, threatened the city of Santo Domingo. Assisted by the Spanish inhabitants, the French, under General Ferrand, obliged the Negroes to retreat, and abandon their hopes of obtaining possession of the town.

Upon the 9th of April, Dessalines issued the following orders:

"All proprietors that have produce to sell, shall previously pay a fourth part as a territorial imposition. The power of selling produce of the 11th year, shall only belong to proprietors who belonged to the indigenous army in the 11th year. Persons, who since that period have resided with the French, are not to have the benefit of that year's produce, their property being confiscated for the use of the indigenous army. Mules, horses, and other animals belonging to the habitations sequestered are to be given up to the administrators of domains, who are to give an account of the same to the general commanding the department, who will place them in the most advantageous manner on the sequestered estates, to be employed in cultivation.

"It is expressly forbidden that any officer shall intermeddle with the cultivation of the estates.

Précis Historique des dernier Evenements de Santo Domingo, p. 19.
Annual Register, 1804, p. 192.

"All sugar manufactories previously given to the chiefs of corps shall be returned to the administrators of domains.

"All proprietors, resident with the French to the time of the indigenous army taking possession of a place, shall forfeit all the produce of their estates during the eleventh year.

"The generals commanding departments shall cause generals of brigade to execute the fortifications ordered to be erected in the high mountains of the interior; and the generals of brigade shall from time to time make report of their proceedings and their works.

"All sales or gifts of moveables or immoveables, made by emigrants in favour of persons residing in the island, are annulled, it being understood, when so made after the indigenous army had taken up arms to expel the French from Hayti.

"April 9th, 1804." (Signed) "DESSALINES."

Dessalines' Proclamation, issued April 28*th*, 1804.

"Liberty or death.

"Jean Jacques Dessalines, Governor-General, to the Inhabitants of Hayti.

"Crimes the most atrocious, such as were until then unheard of, and would cause nature to shudder, have been perpetrated. The measure was overheaped. At length the hour of vengeance has arrived, and the implacable enemies of the rights of man have suffered the punishment due to their crimes. My arm, raised over their heads, has too long delayed to strike. At that signal, which the justice of God has urged, your hands, righteously armed, have brought the axe upon the antient tree of slavery and prejudices. In vain had time, and more especially the infernal politics of Europeans, surrounded it with triple brass. You have stripped it of its armour; you have placed it upon your heart, that you may become (like your natural enemies) cruel and merciless. Like an overflowing mighty torrent, that tears down all opposition, your vengeful fury has carried away every thing in its impetuous course. Thus perish all tyrants over innocence, all oppressors of mankind! What then? Bent for many ages under an iron yoke, the sport of the passions of men, or their injustice, and of the caprices of fortune, mutilated victims of the cupidity of white Frenchmen, after having fattened with our toils these insatiate blood-suckers, with a patience and resignation unexampled, we should again have seen that sacrilegious horde make an attempt upon our destruction, without any distinction of sex or age; and we, men without energy, of no virtue, of no delicate sensibility, should not we have plunged in their breast the dagger of desperation? Where is that evil Haytian, so unworthy of his regeneration, who thinks he has not accomplished the decrees of the Eternal, by exterminating these blood-thirsty tigers? If there be one, let him fly; indignant nature discards him from our bosom; let him hide his shame far from

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 192.

hence; the air we breathe is not suited to his gross organs, it is the pure air of liberty, august and triumphant. Yes, we have rendered to these true cannibals war for war, crime for crime, outrage for outrage; yes, I have saved my country; I have avenged America. The avowal I make of it in the face of earth and heaven constitutes my pride and my glory. Of what consequence to me is the opinion which contemporary and future generations will pronounce upon my conduct? I have performed my duty, I enjoy my own approbation, for me that is sufficient. But what do I say? The preservation of my unfortunate brothers, the testimony of my own conscience, are not my only recompence. I have seen two classes of men, born to cherish, assist, and succour one another, mixed in a world and blended together, crying for vengeance, and disputing the honour of the first blow. Blacks and Yellows, whom the refined duplicity of Europeans has for a long time endeavoured to divide, you, who are now consolidated and make but one family, without doubt it was necessary that our perfect reconciliation should be sealed with the blood of your butchers. Similar calamities have hung over your proscribed heads, a similar ardour to strike your enemies has signalized you, the like fate is reserved for you, and the like interests must therefore render you for ever one, indivisible and inseparable. Maintain that precious concord, that happy harmony amongst yourselves; it is the pledge of your happiness, your salvation, and your success; it is the secret of being invincible. It is necessary, in order to strengthen these ties, to recal to your remembrance the catalogue of atrocities committed against our species: *the massacre of the entire population of this island, meditated in the silence and sang-froid of the cabinet; the execution of that abominable project to me unblushingly proposed, and already begun by the French, with the calmness and serenity of a countenance accustomed to similar crimes.* Guadaloupe pillaged and destroyed, its ruins still reeking with the blood of the children, women, and old men put to the sword. Pelage (himself the victim of their craftiness,) after having basely betrayed his country and his brothers, the brave and immortal Delgresse blown into the air with the fort which he defended, rather than accept their offered chains. Magnanimous warrior! that noble death, far from enfeebling our courage, serves only to rouse within us the determination of avenging or of following thee. Shall I again recal to your memory the plots lately formed at Jeremie? The terrible explosion which was to be the result, notwithstanding the generous pardon to these incorrigible beings, at the expulsion of the French army? the deplorable fate of our departed brothers in Europe, and, (dread harbinger of death,) the frightful despotism exercised at Martinico? Unfortunate people of Martinico! could I but fly to your assistance and break your fetters; alas, an insurmountable barrier separates us. Perhaps a spark, from the same

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 193.

fire which enflames us, will alight into your bosoms: perhaps at the sound of this commotion, suddenly awakened from your lethargy, with arms in your hands, you will reclaim your sacred and imprescriptible rights.

"After the terrible example which I have just given, that sooner or later divine justice will unchain on earth some mighty minds, above the weakness of the vulgar, for the destruction and terror of the wicked; tremble tyrants, usurpers, scourges of the new world, our daggers are sharpened, your punishment is ready; 60,000 men, equipped, inured to war, obedient to my orders, burn to offer a new sacrifice to the manes of their assassinated brothers. Let that nation come who may be mad and daring enough to attack me. Already at his approach the irritated genius of Hayti, arising out of the bosom of the ocean, appears; his menacing aspect throws the waves into commotion, excites tempests, and with his mighty hand disperses ships or dashes them in pieces; to his formidable voice the laws of nature pay obedience; diseases, plague, famine, conflagration, poison, are his constant attendants. But why calculate on the assistance of the climate and of the elements? — Have I forgot that I command a people of no common cast, brought up in adversity, whose audacious daring frowns at obstacles, and increases by dangers? Let them come then, these homicidal cohorts; I wait for them with firmness, and with a steady eye; I abandon to them freely the sea shore, and the places where cities have existed; but woe to those who may approach too near the mountains! It were better for them that the sea received them into its profound abyss, than to be devoured by the anger of the children of Hayti. War to death, to tyrants! — this is my motto. Liberty and independence! — this is our rallying cry. Generals, officers, soldiers, a little unlike him who has preceded me, the ex-general Toussaint Louverture, I have been faithful to the promise which I made to you when I took arms against tyranny; and whilst a spark of life remains in me, I shall keep my oath, 'Never again shall a colonist, or an European, set his foot upon this territory, with the title of master or proprietor.' This resolution shall henceforward form the fundamental basis of our constitution.

"Should other chiefs, after me, by pursuing a conduct diametrically opposite to mine, dig their own graves, and those of their own species, you will have to accuse only the law of destiny, which shall have taken me away from the happiness and welfare of my fellow-citizens. May my successors follow the path I shall have traced out for them; it is the system best adapted for consolidating their power; it is the highest homage they can render to my memory.

"As it is derogatory to my character and my dignity to punish

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Annual Register, 1804, p. 194.

the innocent for the crimes of the guilty, a handful of Whites, commendable by the religion they have always professed, and who have, besides, taken the oath to live with us in the woods, have experienced my clemency. I order that the sword respect them, and that they be unmolested. I recommend anew, and order all the generals of departments, &c. to grant succours, encouragement, and protection to all neutral and friendly nations, who may wish to establish commercial relations in this island. Head-quarters at the Cape, 28th April, 1804, first year of independence.

"DESSALINES.
"JUSTE CHANLUTTE, Sec."

On the 14th of May, Dessalines left the Cape to examine the western and southern provinces. He was received every where with enthusiasm, and solicited to accept the title of emperor. The legal authorities met, on the 8th of September, at Port-au-Prince, to arrange the ceremonies for his coronation, which was fixed to take place upon the 8th of October.

In the procession, learning, the arts, agriculture, foreign and national commerce, justice, and legislation, the officers of health, and the military, were all introduced in order.

From the Champ de Mars the procession proceeded to an amphitheatre, where the act was read which announced Jean Jaques Dessalines the first Emperor of Hayti.

This was followed by a discharge of artillery and musketry from the forts, the harbour, and the troops.

Dessalines then ascended a throne, and was crowned amidst a circle of the principal officers of the empire. This ceremony was followed by a triple discharge of musketry and cannon. After this "the Emperor" proceeded to church, where Te Deum was sung, and a third salute fired at the same time.

From the church the procession returned to the government-house, and at night the city was illuminated.

"Liberty or death.

"Jaques, the first emperor of Hayti.

"Art. 1. Every captain of a vessel, armed or not, on board of which one or more persons, natives, shall be found, to be carried to a foreign country, such captain shall be arrested and thrown into prison, there to lie ten months, and after that time to be sent to his own country, with express orders not to return to the empire of Hayti, at his peril. The vessel and cargo shall be confiscated for the benefit of the empire.

"Art. 2. Every native taken on board such foreign vessel shall immediately be shot in the public square.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 528.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 493.

"The guards of divisions and brigades, and the different commanders, are charged with the execution of the present decree.

"Done at our imperial palace at the Cape, the 22d of October, 1804, first year of our independence, and of our reign the first.

(Signed) "JAQUES.

"CALRONNE, General of horse to his Imperial Majesty."

"Jaques, Emperor of Hayti, directs the following ordinance to be carried into effect throughout his dominions. All vessels, to whatever nation belonging, that shall introduce spirituous liquors into this island, shall be liable to pay a duty of two dollars per gallon on the liquor thus imported.

"Boisrond Tonnere." "By the Emperor, DESSALINES."

In pursuance of parliamentary addresses, the colonial secretaries of state directed the governors in the West Indies to make inquiries as to the births and deaths among the slaves.

These inquiries and suggestions from the same high authorities, for improving the condition of the slaves, were by all the colonies neglected, and by Jamaica treated with the most indecent and unexampled contempt. They were laid by Lord Balcarras before the assembly; and its answer, for the information of the British government and parliament, was frequently solicited and patiently waited for by his lordship. At length, when he could no longer delay sending some official communication to government, and urged the assembly to break its long contemptuous silence, that body thought fit expressly to refuse to give any answer at all. The governor thereupon called on the council for the necessary information; and transmitted a report from a committee of that board, in which they say, "your committee is not possessed of any documents, nor are they attainable by them, whereby to ascertain what has been, on a comparison of births and deaths of slaves, the annual difference between them." To subsequent inquiries of the same kind, addressed by Earl Camden to Lieutenant-Governor Nugent, in October, 1804, no answer appears to have been returned. "I presume, therefore," Mr. Stephens says, "he met the same insolent repulse."

"The legislature of Jamaica then did not desert its duty in this instance from forgetfulness. The wish of the executive government and parliament of Great Britain to obtain the interesting information in question, though repeatedly intimated, was wilfully and contumaciously repelled."

Extract of a Letter from Lord Seaforth, the Governor of Barbadoes, to Earl Camden, dated the 13*th of November*, 1804.

"I enclose four papers, containing, from different quarters,

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 155.

Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, p. 128.

Debates on the Slave Trade. Appendix, 1816.

reports on the horrid murders I mentioned in some former letters. *They are selected from a great number*, among which there is not one in contradiction of the horrible facts, though several of the letters are very concise and defective. The truth is that nothing has given me more trouble than to get at the bottom of these businesses, *so horribly absurd are the prejudices of the people.*"

In a subsequent letter, dated the 7th of January, 1805, his lordship thus writes, "I enclose the attorney-general's letter to me on the subject of the Negroes so most wantonly murdered. I am sorry to say, SEVERAL OTHER INSTANCES OF THE SAME BARBARITY HAVE OCCURRED, with which I have not troubled your lordship, as *I only wished to make you acquainted with the subject in general.*"

The letters to which Lord Seaforth refers, and which accompany the above extracts, are from four of the most respectable individuals in the island of Barbadoes, viz. Mr. Ince, the president of the council; Mr. Colthurst, the advocate-general; Mr. Beccles, the attorney-general; and the Rev. Mr. Pilgrim. These gentlemen all agree in the material facts which they state; it would, therefore, be an unnecessary repetition to transcribe the whole of their letters, it will be sufficient to give the substance of the statements which they contain.

"1. On the 10th of April, 1804, a militia-man of the name of Halls, of the St. Michael's regiment, returning from military duty, overtook on the road some Negroes, who were going quietly home from their labour. When he came near, he called out that he would kill them, and immediately began to run after them. The Negroes, not supposing that he really intended to do them any injury, and imagining he was in joke, did not endeavour to escape, but merely made way for him. The person nearest to him happened to be a woman, the property of a Mr. Clarke, the owner of Simmons's estate, who is stated to have been a valuable slave, the mother of five or six children, and far advanced in pregnancy. *Without the smallest provocation of any kind, Halls coolly and deliberately plunged his bayonet several times into her body, when the poor creature dropped and expired without a groan.* Two gentlemen were eye-witnesses of this horrid action; one of them, Mr. Harding, the manager of the Codrington College estate, went up to Halls, and spoke harshly to him, and said he ought to be hanged, for he never saw a more unprovoked murder, and that he would certainly carry him before a magistrate. Halls' reply is very remarkable: 'for what!' said he, with the utmost indifference as to the crime, 'for what! for killing a Negro!!!' This is a short but significant sentence, strongly confirming an important truth which has frequently been asserted, viz. that the Negroes are regarded by their white-skinned oppressors as an inferior order of beings, and under the influence of this sentiment, are naturally enough denied the common rights of humanity, and excluded from the pale of that sympathy which a sense of a common nature and a common extraction is calculated to inspire. Mr. Harding, however, greatly to his credit, was proof against the force of Halls' compendious reasoning, and, having procured assistance, laid hold of him, and carried him before Mr. Justice Walton. Mr. Justice Walton, it would appear, was not indisposed to use the authority with which he was vested in bringing Halls to justice; but he found, that *in his situation as a magistrate, the law of the island gave him no jurisdiction or authority over him;* and, in short, that he had no right to commit him. In this dilemma Mr. Walton applied to Mr. President Ince. 'I told Mr. Walton,' says the president in his letter to Lord Seaforth, 'that I regretted, with real concern, the deficiency in our law; but that there was a penalty due to the King in such cases (viz. the eleven pounds four shillings), and that as Mr. Harding had sufficiently substantiated the fact, I would order him to be committed till he paid the forfeiture, or a suit should be commenced against him.' Accordingly, he was sent to prison.

"2. The second instance produced by Lord Seaforth is not inferior in atrocity to the first. A Mr. Colbeck, who lives overseer on Cabbage-tree plantation, in St. Lucy's parish, had bought a new Negro boy out of the yard, (meaning the slave-yard, where Negroes are exposed to sale, in the same manner as the cattle and sheep in Smithfield market,) and carried him home. Conceiving a liking to the boy, he took him into the house, and made him wait at table. Mr. Crone, the overseer of Rowe's estate which is near to Cabbage-tree plantation was in the habit of visiting Mr. Colbeck, had noticed the boy, and knew him well. A fire happening one night in the neighbourhood, Colbeck went to give his assistance, and the boy followed him. Colbeck, on his return home, missed the boy, who had lost his way; and as he did not make his appearance the next day he sent round to his neighbours, and particularly to Crone, informing him, that his African lad had strayed, that he could not speak a word of English, and possibly he might be found breaking some sugar canes, or taking something else for his support; in which case he requested they would not injure him, but send him home, and he would pay any damage the boy might have committed. After a lapse of two or three days, the poor creature was discovered in a gully (or deep watercourse) near to Rowe's estate; and a number of Negroes were soon assembled about the place. The boy, naturally terrified with the threats, the noise, and the appearance of so many people, retreated into a hole in a rock, having a stone in his hand, for the purpose probably of defence. By this time Crone, and some other white persons, had come up. *By their orders a fire was put to the hole where the boy lay, who,*

Debates on the Slave Trade. Appendix, 1816.

when he began to be scorched, ran from his hiding-place into a pool of water which was near. Some of the Negroes pursued him into the pool; and the boy, it is said, threw the stone which he held in his hand at one of them. On this two of the white men, Crone and Hollingsworth, fired at the boy several times with shot, and the Negroes pelted him with stones. He was at length dragged out of the pool in a dying condition; for he had not only received several bruises from the stones, but his breast was so pierced with the shot, that it was like a cullender. The white savages (this is the language of Mr. Attorney-General Beccles) ordered the Negroes to dig a grave. Whilst they were digging it, the poor creature made signs of begging for water, which was not given to him; but as soon as the grave was dug, he was thrown into it, and covered over, and, as is believed, *while yet alive.* Colbeck, the owner of the boy, hearing that a Negro had been killed, went to Crone to inquire into the truth of the report. Crone told him, that a Negro had been killed and buried, but assured him it was not his, for he knew him well, and he need not be at the trouble of opening the grave. On this Colbeck went away *satisfied.* Receiving, however, further information, he returned and had the grave opened, when he found the murdered Negro to be his own. Colbeck brought his action of damages in the courts of the island against Crone and Hollingsworth. The cause was ready to be tried, and the court had met for the purpose, when they thought proper to pay double the value of the boy, and £25 for the use of the island (being £5 less than the penalty fixed by law, of £15 currency each), rather than suffer the business to go to a hearing. 'This, I am truly sorry to say,' observes the advocate-general, 'was the only punishment which could be inflicted for so barbarous and atrocious a crime.'

"This horrid recital (which is given almost in the words of the Report, merely avoiding repetitions) seems to require little comment. One circumstance of it, however, may not strike the minds of some readers with its due force, although it appears to be the most affecting part of the whole case. Colbeck, it is said, on hearing that it was not his slave who had been murdered, went away satisfied!" Mr. Stephens says, "Let the reader give its due weight to this one circumstance, and he must be convinced what a state of society exists in the West Indies, of which, as an inhabitant of this happy island, he can scarcely form any adequate conception. Suppose, instead of a Negro slave, that it had been a horse which had been thus killed; Colbeck, had his horse happened to be missing at the time, would have pursued exactly the same steps, and would have been affected in the same way as in the present instance. We may also learn, from this impressive circumstance, the value of West Indian testimony, when given in favour of West Indian humanity. The moral per-

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Debates on the Slave Trade, 1816; Appendix.

ceptions and feelings which prevail in that quarter of the world, it will be perceived, are wholly different from those on this side of the Atlantic. It may be allowed that these men mean what they say, when they give each other the praise of humanity. But examine their standard. Who is this man of humanity? It is one, who, hearing that a fellow-creature has been cruelly and wantonly murdered, goes away satisfied because he himself has sustained no loss by the murder! An exception may be admitted in favour of a few men of enlightened minds; but the remark applies to the people, to the bulk of the community, whose prejudices are stated by Lord Seaforth to be so horribly absurd as to resist all measures for remedying this dreadful state of things."

The third case communicated by Lord Seaforth is, if possible, worse than either of the foregoing.

" A man of the name of Nowell, who lives in St. Andrew's parish, had been in the habit of behaving brutally towards his wife, and one day went so far as to lock her up in a room, and confine her in chains. A Negro woman belonging to this man, touched with compassion for her unfortunate mistress, undertook privately to release her. Nowell found it out; and, in order to punish her, obliged her to put her tongue through a hole in a board, to which he fastened it on the opposite side with a fork, and left her in that situation for some time. He afterwards cut out her tongue nearly by the root, in consequence of which she almost instantly died. No punishment followed this monstrous act of barbarity.

" It will, doubtless, be argued, that individual instances of cruelty like those which have been cited are no proofs of general inhumanity, any more than the annals of the Old Bailey can be considered as exhibiting a fair view of our national character. There is, however, this remarkable difference in the two cases, a difference which is fatal to the argument: — in this country, when we read of crimes, we read of their being followed by just retribution, by severe and exemplary punishment; in the West Indies, on the contrary, we not only hear of the greatest crimes escaping with impunity, but we find the laws themselves conspiring to shelter criminals from justice; we find the most respectable and enlightened part of the community sanctioning the perpetration even of murder, by their refusal to recognize the commission of it as a felonious act."

That the owners of slaves, and the employers of them, are losers thereby, is abundantly proved. The report of the assembly of Jamaica this year says, " Sheriffs' officers and collectors of taxes are every where offering for sale the property of individuals who have seen better days." — " All kind of credit is at an end." — " A faithful detail would have the appearance of a frightful caricature."

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 475.

Santa Cruz. — " A high court judgment passed on the 27th of June, 1804, in Copenhagen, against Mr. Luke Codwise, for his conduct towards his Negro woman, Peggy, by which he is sentenced to pay a fine of 1250 pieces of eight, and the wench is to be emancipated from slavery."

In consequence of which Mr. Codwise was made to pay his fine, and the wench got her free brief on the 28th of September, 1804.

In the islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico the receipts were consumed by the expences of administration. The expences of Cuba were 2,300,000 piastres. Twenty-four thousand five hundred and eleven men were under arms in that island, of which number 517 were disciplined militia cavalry, and 2163 infantry; the remainder were " milicias rurales." Humboldt says, that the island could raise for its defence a body of 36,000 Whites, from the age of sixteen to forty-five.

By royal order from the King of Spain, one brig, six schooners, and six sloops, all armed, were continually to coast from the mouths of the Oronoko to Cape de la Vela, as guarda costas. At Guayra, eight men and a corporal to make a circuit between Margarita and Guayra. A wreck, if the cargo is covered by legal papers, is plundered by the country people, but assisted if contraband.

Proclamation by General Ernouf.

Guadaloupe.

" Considering that those vessels which have communication with the rebels of St. Domingo can be regarded in no other light than as the enemies of France, since all the neutral powers, or those allied to the republic, have prohibited all intercourse between their subjects and the brigands, decrees,

" Art. 1. The privateers of Guadaloupe shall detain all vessels bound to the ports of St. Domingo, in the possession of the insurgents, as well as those coming from them. The part of the island subject to France is comprehended between Cape Raphael and the Bay of Ocoa.

" 2. Those vessels whose destination shall be proved for the ports, or coming from the ports in possession of the rebels, will be considered as the enemies of France. They shall consequently be declared lawful prizes, and condemned according to the usual forms.

" Ernouf."

In consequence of this proclamation several American vessels were taken, and their crews treated with great severity.

Humboldt's New Spain, vol. iv. pp. 240. 267.
Depon's South America, vol. ii. pp. 63. 65. 68.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 421.

Captain M'Kenzie, of his Majesty's ship Hippomenes, off Barbadoes, engaged the Buonaparte privateer brig, and boarded her; but the vessels separating, she escaped, and carried away some of the Hippomenes' wounded officers.

"His Majesty's sloop Cyane, off Antigua,
12th November, 1804.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to inform you, that on the 11th instant, at three A. M., off the island of Mariegalante, after a short chase, and running fight of thirty minutes, I had the good fortune to come up with, and capture Le Buonaparte, a very fine privateer brig, pierced for twenty-two guns, mounting eighteen long French eight-pounders, and 150 men. I am happy to add, that we have received no material damage in our masts or hull, and have only a few men hurt, occasioned by the explosion of a cartridge on the main deck. We found the Buonaparte in a very shattered condition, having lost her fore mast, bowsprit, and top masts, in an action with three English letters of marque, three days previous to her capture. I should not do justice to my feelings, were I to omit expressing my thorough satisfaction at the steady and determined conduct of all the officers and crew of the Cyane, and although the state of the vessel was such as not to call forth any extraordinary exertions on our part, I feel confident, that whenever chance may give them an opportunity, they will do ample justice to the character, which, in my opinion, they so justly deserve. "I have the honour to be, &c.

"S. Hood, Esq., Commodore." "George Cadogan."

The Penelope, Ceres, and Thetis, were the three vessels which engaged this privateer. Their captains had a paper war afterwards, as to who behaved most gallantly, which the Frenchmen settled, by stating, that all three behaved courageously; but Mr. Charnley, the captain of the Thetis, was presented, by the inhabitants of Dominica, with £250 for his crew, and a piece of plate, value £60, for himself, for his gallantry on this occasion.

Captain Nourse, in his Majesty's sloop Cyane, on the 14th of February, off Barbadoes, captured Le Recompence, of ten guns and seventy men.

The same officer, on the 27th of January, captured L'Harmonie, of twelve guns and eighty-two men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 422.; vol. xiii. pp. 146. 156. 275.

Captain L. O. Bland, in his Majesty's ship Heureux, off Barbadoes, on the 26th of February, captured the Flibustier, of six guns and sixty-eight men.

Captain Conway Shipley, in his Majesty's sloop St. Lucia, off the Grenadines on the 25th of January, captured La Furet, of four guns and forty-five men.

The same officer, on the 16th of February, off Grenada, captured Le Bijou, of six guns and sixty men.

Naval Chronicle, 1804, *Official Letters.*

Commodore Hood, in his letter of February 21st, 1804, says, "I cannot too much commend the activy of those officers, (Captains Nourse and Shipley,) in their exertions in the protection of the trade."

On the 19th of December, a general embargo or stop was made of all Spanish vessels whatsoever, because (the order states,) "an embargo has been ordered to be laid upon all British ships in the ports of Spain."

The blockade of the island of Curaçoa was raised the 16th of October, after an officer, from an English frigate, had been on shore to exchange prisoners.

Extract of a Letter from an Officer of his Majesty's Ship Blanche, 27th February.

"I am this day returned from the siege of Curaçoa; our force was not numerous enough to take the place. We are not beaten off, but retreated, for want of more men and provisions. This ship

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. p. 145.; vol. xiii. pp. 65. 155.

Lieutenant Fromon, in his Majesty's schooner La Superieure, captured the French privateer schooner Serpent, off Gonave, on the 6th of February.

Lieutenant Bream, with the boats of his Majesty's ship Desirée, off Cuba, captured La Jeune Adele, row-boat privateer, with twelve men, from Guadaloupe. The English had one man killed and three wounded.

Captain Le Geyt, in his Majesty's sloop Stork, on the 24th of February, captured the French national schooner Coquette, of two guns and ninety-five men, bound to Guadaloupe.

Admiral Duckworth reported, that from December, 1803, to March 10th, 1804, his squadron had captured eleven sail.

Captain Ross, in his Majesty's ship Pique, off St. Domingo, on the 18th of March, captured the French national cutter Le Terreur, of ten guns and seventy-five men.

Captain Le Geyt, in his Majesty's sloop Stork, off Cape Nichola Mole, on the 30th of March, captured L'Hirondelle, of three guns and forty-four men.

Captain Murray, in his Majesty's ship Franchise, captured La Petite Harmonie, privateer, from Martinico, of two guns and twenty-two men, on the 26th of March.

Captain Lyall, in his Majesty's ship Lilly, on the 1st of March, captured the Dutch national schooner Draak, of five guns and fifty men, from Curaçoa.

Admiral Duckworth, on the 7th of April, reported, that since the 10th of March his squadron had captured five privateers.

Captain Gordon, in his Majesty's sloop Racoon, on the 16th of March, captured the French transport L'Argo, from New Orleans, of six guns and seventy men, fifty of whom were soldiers.

Captain Gordon, on the 3d of April, off Inagua Grande, captured the French privateer L'Aventure, of three guns and twenty-eight men.

On the 10th of June, Vice-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth reported, that the squadron under his command at Jamaica had captured nineteen sail.

Captain Columbine, in his Majesty's ship Ulysses, on the 30th of April, off the Bocas, captured Le Petit Decide, of one gun and twenty-six men, from Guadaloupe.

Captain Inglefield, in his Majesty's sloop Hunter, on the 10th of June, off Jamaica, captured La Libertie, French privateer, of three guns and thirty-seven men, from St. Jago de Cuba.

Captain Nourse, in his Majesty's ship Barbadoes, on the 17th of October, captured the Napoleon, French privateer, from Guadaloupe, of eighteen guns and 150 men, after a chase of thirteen hours; and, in November, the same officer captured L'Heureux, privateer sloop, of ten six-pounders and eighty men, from Guadaloupe.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. pp. 63. 76, 77. 134. 142.; vol. xiii. p. 72.

is to stay here to blockade the place, and the others are to return to Jamaica for more men and stores, when we shall be at the enemy again. We beat them in nine different attacks; the last one we drove them for the distance of three miles, and took twelve of them prisoners. Our loss, during the siege, is twenty-five men killed and forty-seven wounded. The enemy's above treble that number."

Commodore Hood, at Barbadoes, on the 13th of July, reported, that from the 1st of January to the 30th of June, 1804, the squadron under his command had captured thirty-three sail, of which twelve were armed vessels, and carried 159 guns, and 798 men.

Lieutenants Furber and Mayne, Mr. Hill, and sixteen men, were wounded, three killed, and three missing, in attempting to cut out a schooner, which was chained to the shore, at St. Pierre's, Martinico.

His Majesty's sloop Lilly was captured by a French privateer, and carried to Guadaloupe. The privateer was "the Duke of Marlborough packet," taken some time before.

At St. Christopher's, thirteen sail were wrecked in a hurricane, in September, which did great damage at all the windward islands.

The exports from Demerary, between the 1st of October, 1803, and the 10th of September, 1804, were 19,638 hhds., 213 tierces, and 151 barrels of sugar; 4887 puncheons of rum; 46,435 bales of cotton; 9,954,610 lbs. of coffee, and 530 casks of molasses. Three hundred and ninety-four vessels were employed in carrying it.

The colony suffered severely from drought; nearly the whole crop of plaintains failed; bunches were purchased, with avidity, at from three shillings and four-pence to five shillings each, which, in ordinary years, were sold at seven-pence halfpenny.

From a return made to the House of Commons, May 6th, 1806, it appears that Great Britain imported this year from the British West Indies, 239,000 hhds. of sugar, of which 120,000 came from Jamaica, and 176,531 cwt. of coffee; 20,529,878 lbs. of cotton; 3377 cwt. of ginger; 2,240,606 lbs. of pimento; 54,397 lbs. of indigo; 3333 tons of fustic; 667 of lignum vitæ; 9358 of logwood;

Naval Chronicle, vol. xii. pp. 237. 239. 421. 492.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demarary, pp. 70. 335.
Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp. 16. 34.

Captain Gardner, in his Majesty's ship Princess Charlotte, off Cape Antonio, on the 15th of December, captured the Regulus, privateer brig, of fourteen guns and eighty-four men, from Guadaloupe.

Captain Fyffe, in his Majesty's sloop Reindeer, on the seventh of March, off Jamaica, captured Santa Rosalia Galandrina, Spanish privateer, of three guns and fifty-seven men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 217. 414.

3545 of mahogany; 890 of nicoragua; besides molasses, cocoa, castor oil, arrow root, turmeric, &c. Six hundred and thirty-eight ships, carrying 183,934 tons, were employed in the trade.

On Sunday morning, October the 21st, the magazine door in Fort Charlotte, in St. Vincent's, was forced open by lightning. Several hundred barrels of gunpowder were in the magazine at the time.

The number of slaves in Jamaica was reported to be 308,542. Negroes imported 5979; exported 1811.

1805.

On the 11th January war was declared against Spain. The declaration states, "his Majesty has received information that the King of Spain has issued a declaration of war against his Majesty, his subjects, and people."

In his speech from the throne his Majesty said, "My forbearance has been carried to the utmost extent which the interests of my dominions would admit. — The general conduct of the French government on the continent of Europe has been marked by the utmost violence and outrage, and has shown a wanton defiance of the rights of neutral nations, of the acknowledged privileges of accredited ministers, and of the established principles of the law of nations." And on the 26th of January, a declaration of the reasons for the war was published in the London Gazette; it is an able and satisfactory state paper.

Order of the Prefect of Guadaloupe.

"To all American captains.

"It is forbidden to all American captains, under the penalty of 200 dollars, to introduce into this colony any newspapers, gazettes, or proclamations from any part of the world whatsoever; and if they have any on board, they may and must deposit them at the captain of the post's office.

"Done at Basse Terre, the 5th Vendemiaire, 5th year of the French republic.

"G. Robert, Interpreter."

This is a characteristic proof of the consistency of these "soi-disant" friends of liberty.

Sir W: Young's Common-place Book, p. 36.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 287.
Stephen's Defence of the Register Bill. Appendix.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. pp. 70. 72. 160.

Upon the 12th of January, some of the inhabitants of Trinidad petitioned the King to grant to that island "the British laws, in their fullest extent, as administered in the other British islands," declaring, at the same time, that "the continued existence of the Spanish law" had "destroyed even the vestiges of faith between man and man." The address was subscribed by 232 persons.

Captain Ross, of his Majesty's ship Pique, off the Havaña, on the 8th of February, 1805, captured the Orquijo, Spanish corvette, of eighteen guns and eighty-two men, from Carthagena to the Havaña, with dispatches, which were thrown overboard.

Commodore Hood, when he forwarded the following letter of Captain Bettesworth, stated, that "the captain of the privateer displayed an extraordinary degree of obstinacy, and by it lost the lives of many of his men. The coolness and bravery of Captain Bettesworth [1], his officers and men, early manifested its superiority. Indeed, I want words to express the gallantry and spirit of this officer, who so lately received three wounds in capturing the sloop he now commands, has again a severe wound by a musket-ball in the head, and, I trust, will merit the notice of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, as an emulative and promising officer that has gained every step by his zeal and courage.

"I am, &c.

"Sam. Hood."

"Sir, "Curieux, at sea, February 8th, 1805.

"I have to inform you, that this morning, at break of day, Barbadoes bearing west about twenty leagues, I perceived a large brig on our lee-bow, who immediately bore up, and made all sail away, and after a chace of twelve hours, during which time she

Political Account of Trinidad.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. pp. 496. 402.

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[1] Poor Bettesworth! his first cruize was with the author in the Phœbe, under Sir Robert Barlow. In this work, part only of his actions are recorded. His career was short and brilliant; but it requires an abler pen. When he commanded the Curieux, and was cruizing off the Spanish main, he went in shore in his jolly boat, and took the purser with him, who beguiled the time by playing French tunes upon a violin. A Negro came down to the beach with a pair of fowls, and held them up, as though he wished to sell them. Bettesworth took the bait, and pulled ashore. The moment the boat touched the beach, a squadron of cavalry rode for her. Bettesworth was shot through the thigh, and his coxswain had his arm broken by another shot; the rest lay down in the boat, and she would have been taken, if Bettesworth had not stimulated the men by reproaches to exert themselves and shove her off, which was done. When clear, Bettesworth, exhausted with loss of blood, reminded the purser of a bottle of champaigne, and desired him to draw the cork, and give him and the wounded men some. The purser's nerves were out of tune, and, in attempting to draw the cork, he knocked the bottom off the bottle, and the invaluable refreshment was lost. The purser determined never to play the Marseillois hymn again.

The author had this story from Captain Bettesworth a few days after it happened; the coxswain was then, Captain B. said, in his cabin.

If the reader should shake his head at the boy for having a fiddle in the boat, he must, in justice, admire the captain, who makes a sick bay of his cabin. These traits mark the character of Bettesworth.

tried every point of sailing to escape us, we arrived within point-blank shot of her, when she took in her studding sails, and brought to on the starboard tack, hoisted French colours, and commenced a very brisk and heavy fire of great guns and small arms. On our arriving within pistol-shot, and ranging upon her weather quarter, we discharged our guns, and the action continued with great obstinacy, on both sides, for about forty minutes; when the enemy getting on our weather quarter, I conceived, from their having in great measure left their guns, and giving three cheers, that they intended to board us. She was then steering for our leeward quarter, when we put our helm to starboard, and caught his jib-boom between our after fore-shroud and fore-mast. In this situation she remained until her decks were completely cleared, when at the moment we were going to take possession, the vessels parted, and her fore-top-mast went overboard. She continued a short time firing musketry, and then hauled down her colours, and proved to be La Dame Ernouf, of sixteen long French sixes, and 120 men, out twenty days from Guadaloupe, and had taken one merchant ship (since retaken by his Majesty's sloop Nimrod), sails very fast, coppered and remarkably well found; but although she carries the same number of guns, and of the same calibre as the Curieux, she is not near so large.

" I can attribute her fighting so long and obstinately to nothing but the captain being part owner, her having run, since the commencement of the war, with so much success, and her being so well manned. His Majesty's brig had five killed and three wounded, besides myself; of the former I have to regret the loss of a valuable officer, Mr. Maddox, the purser, who (on account of Mr. Boss, first lieutenant, having been left behind on leave in the hurry of our sailing) volunteered his services, and was killed gallantly fighting at the head of the small-arm men. I cannot help stating, as a tribute to the memory of so worthy a young man, that to the service he is the loss of a very good officer, and to every body that knew him a valuable friend and companion.

" Lieutenant Boss having been left behind, deprived me of the services of an able and gallant officer; but Lieutenant Donaldson so well supplied his place, not only by exertions at the guns, but putting the orders that were given in execution, although the only officer I had on board, but Mr. Caddy, master's mate, and Mr. Templeton, boatswain, that I did not, by their great assistance, feel the want of an individual.

" The enemy had thirty killed and forty-one wounded; and in justice to his gallantry, I must say, he never struck whilst there was a man on his decks. I have the honour to be, &c.

" G. E. B. BETTESWORTH."

" Commodore Sir S. Hood, K. B."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 402.

Commodore Hood at the same time reported the capture and recapture of forty-six sail, by the squadron under his command, since his last return; and that Captain Cribb, in his Majesty's sloop Kingfisher, had taken the Deux Amis, schooner privateer, of eight guns and thirty-nine men, off Grenada, on the 29th of December, 1804.

A squadron of six line of battle ships, and some frigates, with troops on board, sailed from Rochefort for the West Indies.

On the 24th of February General Prevost sent the following letter to the naval commander-in-chief, by the master of the sloop Endeavour: —

"Head-quarters, Prince Rupert, Dominica,
24th February, 1805.

"Sir,

"You will inform the commander-in-chief of his Majesty's naval and land forces, that a force from France, consisting of one three-decker, and two seventy-fours, frigates, &c. with troops on board, invested the island on the 20th, and made good their landing on the following day (the 21st). They were most successfully resisted by the troops under my command, and repeatedly driven back. The ships of the line in vain attempted to silence the batteries; but unfortunately, the town being on fire, and the militia on the right, notwithstanding their spirited conduct, were compelled to fall back.

"I deemed it prudent to allow the council to capitulate for the town of Roseau and its dependencies, whilst I attempted, by forced marches, to get into Prince Rupert with such force as I could collect, in which I have succeeded, and wait their attack on this post with a well-grounded expectation, that his Majesty's regular and militia forces will again distinguish themselves. I retreated from Roseau on the 21st at four P. M., and understand the terms I prescribed are acceded to. I ordered none to be accepted that were not honourable, and desired the French commander not to allow his troops to disgrace themselves by plundering or any act of wantonness. You are hereby to sail immediately, and make the first island you can. If privateers in the Guadaloupe channel prevent your turning to windward, make Montserrat or Antigua.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your most obedient servant,
"George Prevost."

"To the Master of the sloop Endeavour."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 325.

Captain Colby, in his Majesty's ship Eagle, captured L'Empereur, French privateer, fourteen six-pounders and eighty-two men, off Barbadoes, on the 2d of April.

Captain Impey, in his Majesty's sloop Epervier, on the 26th of January, off Crab Island, captured L'Elizabeth, French schooner privateer, four guns and thirty-four men, from Mariegalante.

Captain Barker, in his Majesty's brig Grenada, off Union Island, captured L'Intrepid, French schooner privateer, four six-pounders and sixty-two men, from Cayenne.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 413, 414. 493.

The following is Brigadier-General Prevost's report to Sir W. Myers of the attack upon Dominica.

"Sir, "Head-quarters, Prince Rupert's, Dominica. 1st March.

"About an hour before the dawn of day, on the 22d ult., an alarm was fired at Scotshead, and soon after a cluster of ships was discovered off Roseau. As our light increased, I made out five large ships, three frigates, two brigs, and small craft, under British colours, a ship of three decks carrying a flag at the mizen. The frigates ranging too close to Fort Young, I ordered them to be fired on, and soon after nineteen large barges, full of troops, appeared, coming from under the lee of the other ships, attended and protected by an armed schooner full of men, and seven other boats, carrying carronades. The English flag was lowered, and that of France hoisted. A landing was immediately attempted on my left flank, between the town of Roseau and the post of Cachecrow. The light infantry of the 1st West India regiment were the first on the march to support Captain Senant's company of militia, which, throughout the day, behaved with great gallantry. It was immediately supported by the grenadiers of the 46th regiment. The first boats were beat off, but the schooner and one of the brigs coming close in shore, to cover the landing, compelled our troops to occupy a better position — a defile leading to the town. At this moment I brought up the grenadiers of the St. George's regiment of militia, and soon after the remainder of the 46th, and gave over to Major Nunn these brave troops, with orders not to yield the enemy one inch of ground. Two field pieces (an amuzette and a six-pounder) were brought into action for their support, under the command of Serjeant Creed, of the 46th regiment, manned by additional gunners and sailors. These guns and a twenty-four pounder from Melville battery, shook the French advancing column by the execution they did. I sent two companies of the St. George's militia, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Constable and a company of the 46th, to prevent the enemy from getting into the rear of the position occupied by Major Nunn. On my return we found the Majestueux, of 120 guns, lying opposite to Fort Young, pouring into the town and batteries her broadsides, followed by the other seventy-fours and frigates doing the same. Some artillery, several captains of merchantmen, with their sailors and the artillery militia, manned five twenty-four pounders, and three eighteens, at the fort, and five twenty-fours at Melville's battery, and returned an uninterrupted fire. From the first post red-hot shot were thrown. At about ten o'clock, A. M., Major Nunn, most unfortunately for his Majesty's service, whilst faithfully executing the orders I had given, was wounded, I fear mortally. This did not discourage the brave fellows. Captain O'Connell, of the 1st West

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 30. Official Letter.

India regiment, received the command and a wound almost at the same time. However, the last circumstance could not induce him to give up the honour of the first, and he continued on the field, animating his men, and resisting the repeated charges of the enemy, until about one o'clock, when he obliged the French to retire from their advanced position with great slaughter. It is impossible for me to do justice to the merit of that officer. You will, I doubt not, favourably report his conduct to his Majesty, and at the same time that of Captain James, who commanded the 46th, and Captain Archibald Campbell, who commanded the grenadiers of the 46th. Foiled and beat off on the left, the right flank was attempted, and a considerable force was landed near Morne Daniel. The regulars, not exceeding 200, employed on the left in opposing the advance of their columns, consisting of 2000 men, could afford me no reinforcement. I had only the right wing of the St. George's regiment of militia to oppose them, of about 100 men. They attacked with spirit, but unfortunately the frigates stood in so close to the shore to protect this disembarkation, that after receiving a destructive fire, they fled back, and occupied the heights of Woodbridge estate. Then it was that a column of the enemy marched up to Morne Daniel, and stormed the redoubt, defended by a small detachment, which, after an obstinate resistance, they carried. On my left, Captain O'Connell was gaining ground, notwithstanding a fresh supply of troops and several field-pieces, which had been brought on shore by the enemy. I now observed a large column climbing the mountain to get in his rear. The town, which had been for some time in flames, was only protected by a light howitzer and a six-pounder; to the right, supported by part of the light company of the St. George's regiment. The enemy's large ships in Woodbridge Bay, out of the reach of my guns, my right flank gained, and my retreat to Prince Rupert's almost cut off, I determined on one attempt to keep the sovereignty of the island, which the excellent troops I had warranted. I ordered the militia to remain at their posts, except such as were inclined to encounter more hardships and severe service; and Captain O'Connell with the 46th, under the command of Captain James, with the light company of the 1st West India regiment, were directed to make a forced march to Prince Rupert's. I then allowed the president to enter into terms for the town of Roseau, and then demanded from the French general that private property should be respected, and that no wanton or disgraceful pillage should be allowed. This done, only attended by Brigade-Major Prevost and Deputy Quarter-Master-General Hopley, of the militia force, I crossed the island, and in twenty-four hours, with the aid of the inhabitants and the exertions of the Caribs, I got to this garrison on the 23d. After four days continued march through the most difficult country,

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 30. Official Letter.

I might almost say, existing, Captain O'Connell joined me at Prince Rupert's, wounded himself, and bringing in his wounded, with a few of the royal artillery, and the precious remains of the 46th regiment and the 1st West India light company. I had no sooner got to the fort than I ordered cattle to be drove in, and took measures for getting a store of water from the river in the bay. I found my signals to Lieutenant-Colonel Broughton, from Roseau, made soon after the enemy had landed, had been received, and that in consequence he had made the most judicious arrangements his garrison would allow of for the defence of this important post. On the 25th, I received the letter of summons I have now the honour to transmit, from general of division La Grange, and, without delay, sent the reply you will find accompanying it. On the 27th, the enemy's cruizers hovered about the head; however, the Centaur's tender (Vigilante) came in, and was saved by our guns. I landed Mr. Henderson, her commander and his crew, to assist in the defence we were prepared to make. As far as can be collected, the enemy had about 4000 men on board, and the whole of their force was compelled to disembark before they gained an inch of ground. I trust this dispatch to Captain O'Connell, to whom I beg to refer you; his services entitle him to consideration. I am much indebted to the zeal and discernment of Fort Adjutant Gualy, who was very accessory to the execution of my orders. I cannot pass unnoticed the very soldier-like conduct of Lieutenant Wallis, of the 46th regiment, to whom I had intrusted the post of Cachecrow or Scotshead. Perceiving our retreat, he spiked his guns, destroyed his ammunition, and immediately commenced his march to join me at Prince Rupert's, with his detachment; nor that of Lieutenant Shaw, of the same regiment, who acted as an officer of artillery, and behaved with uncommon coolness and judgment whilst on the battery, and great presence of mind in securing the retreat of the additional gunners belonging to the 46th regiment. On the 27th, after levying a contribution on Roseau, the enemy reimbarked, and hovered that day and the next about this post. This morning the French fleet is seen off the south end of Guadaloupe under easy sail. Our loss, you will perceive, by the returns I have the honour to transmit, was inconsiderable, when compared with that acknowledged by the enemy, which included several officers of rank, and about 300 others.

"GEO. PREVOST."

"P.S. As I find I cannot spare Captain O'Connell from the duty of this garrison, I must refer you to the master of a neutral vessel, who has engaged to deliver this dispatch.

"Nineteen killed, twenty-four wounded, and eight taken prisoners, exclusive of the militia."

Annual Register, 1805, p. 31. Official Letter.

Summons sent by General La Grange to General Prevost.

" Head-quarters at Roseau, the 5th Ventose,
year 13, (February 25th.)

" The general of division La Grange, grand officer of the legion of honour, inspector-general of the gendarmerie, commander-in-chief of the troops of the expedition of the Leeward Islands.

" GENERAL,

" Before I commence any military operations against the fort into which it appears that you have retired, I shall fulfil a preliminary duty, authorised and practised by civilized nations. You are aware, no less than myself, of the nature of your position, and of the entire inutility of occasioning any further effusion of blood. You witnessed with grief the melancholy fate of the town of Roseau. My first endeavours on entering it were to issue orders for stopping the progress of the conflagration; but, unfortunately, considerable destruction had already taken place. The want of necessaries is ever attended with the most cruel consequences, the evils of which can easily be calculated. This consideration is more than sufficient, without reference to the particular circumstances in which you are placed, to induce you to accept the honourable conditions which I am ready to grant you, and thus to preserve the interesting inhabitants of this colony from fresh calamities, which are inseparable from the occurrences of war. I beg you, general, to make me an early communication of your answer, and, in the mean time, to receive the assurance of the high consideration which I have for you.

" I have the honour to salute you,
(Signed) " LA GRANGE."

" SIR, " Head-quarters, Prince Rupert's, February 25th.

" I have had the honour to receive your letter. My duty to my King and country is so superior to every other consideration, that I have only to thank you for the observations you have been pleased to make on the often inevitable consequences of war. Give me leave, individually, to express the greatest gratitude for your humanity and kind treatment of my wife and children, at the same time to request a continuance thereof, not only to her and them, but towards every other object you may meet with.

" I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) " GEO. PREVOST."

Annual Register, 1805, p. 32.

General Prevost, on his arrival at Prince Rupert's, put every thing in the best state for defending that strong post to the last extremity. Colonel Broughton had already got a large supply of water into the tanks, (there being no spring within the garrison,) and cattle were driven in from every part of the neighbourhood. As there were only seven or eight artillery-men in the fort, and no officer, General Prevost appointed Mr. Johannet and Lieutenant Shaw to the charge of the artillery, and ordered an additional number of the 46th to be trained to the guns.

The French, on their part, were employed on the 23d in refreshing themselves after their hard fighting: they acknowledged the loss of 500 men in killed and wounded. Some were pressing Negroes to bury the dead at Point Michell, many were intoxicated, and some, with officers at their head, were plundering the inhabitants of what the fire had left. They dismissed the militia, ordering them to appear in coloured clothes; and the officers were liberated, on signing their parole not to serve against La Grange's army.

On the 24th, the council and assembly of the island were convened by order of the French general, and a contribution imposed, of £20,000 currency, which was required to be paid in twenty-four hours, and, in order to enforce immediate compliance, a frigate was anchored under the fort, and the gentlemen were informed, if the money was not forthcoming at the appointed time, they would be put on board, and imprisoned at Guadaloupe. After much threatening, the French agreed to accept of £7000, which was paid them. In the afternoon of this day, and during the whole of the 25th, they were busily employed in shipping king's stores out of the commissariat, and every other article of value they could find. They had also been preparing all the merchant vessels for sea. One ship they burnt, and the rest, about twenty sail, principally of square-rigged vessels, they carried to Guadaloupe; several had just arrived from England, with valuable cargoes on board; one was a store-ship. They carried away a considerable number of Negroes, some of whom were afterwards sent back in a flag of truce, by M. Villaret, the governor of Martinico. On the evening of the 26th, the whole squadron, with their prizes, stood for Guadaloupe; next morning, they were off Prince Rupert's, where General Ernouf joined them with some troops, from Guadaloupe; he urged the attack of that garrison, and offered to head it, but the admiral would not risk his ships. After manœuvring nearly the whole of the 27th, they bore away for Guadaloupe. The French admiral kept his frigates and smaller vessels cruizing, and, occasionally, some of the line of battle ships. Upon the morning of the 5th of March, they were off Basse Terre, St. Christopher's. Major Foster's dispatch details their operations there.

Journal of Occurrences at Dominica, Royal Military Chronicle, 1812, vol. iv. p. 207.

Major Foster's Dispatch.

" Sir, " Brimstone Hill, St. Kitt's, March 8th.

" I did myself the honour of writing to you on the 27th instant, by the mail-boat, to say that intelligence had been received here, on that morning, of the arrival of a French force at Dominica, and the steps I had taken to make such circumstances known to government. I lost no time in placing this garrison in the best state to repel any attack that might be made by the enemy, and increasing the provisions to a quantity sufficient to maintain a garrison of 500 men for three months, which was, by the exertions of the resident commissary, effected on the 1st instant. I have now to inform you, that on the morning of the 5th instant, a French squadron, consisting of five line of battle ships, (one a three decker,) three frigates, two brigs of war, and a schooner, with, according to accounts since received, 3500 men on board, appeared off Nevis Point, and stood in for Basse Terre, where the frigates only anchored. I did not think it consistent with the safety of this garrison to divide the small force of regular troops under my command, and the militia being found inadequate to give effectual opposition, it was previously agreed with President Woodley, that 300 of them should be thrown into this garrison, in the event of the enemy's effecting a landing, in consequence of which, and the enemy having landed about 500 men at Basse Terre, he marched in here with great promptness, on the same day, with the above 300 men, including seamen and militia. The enemy took possession of the town, demanding the immediate payment of £40,000 sterling, in failure of which it should be burned. The inhabitants with difficulty raised £18,000, with which sum they embarked, intimating an intention of attacking this hill, and, from the state of preparation we were in, as well as the zeal shown by the troops in this garrison, I have every reason to believe that the result would have been such as you would wish. It does not appear, however, that this squadron wish to attack where opposition may be expected, but to plunder the inhabitants, and burn and destroy the shipping. Six merchant ships, some of them very valuable, have been towed from the anchorage at Basse Terre, set on fire, and allowed to drift to sea.

" James Foster, Major, 11th regt."

Upon the 10th of May, Brigadier-General Dalrymple arrived at Roseau, to supersede General Prevost, who had obtained leave of absence.

On the 16th, a vessel from St. Lucia arrived with intelligence from General Brereton, that on the preceding day, fifteen sail of the line, (eight Spanish and seven French,) besides frigates, had

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 33.

arrived at Martinico. They had sustained considerable damage from the fire of the Diamond Rock. Brigadier-General Dalrymple proceeded to Prince Rupert's, where the garrison amounted to 1200 regulars, including forty artillery-men, and 500 militia were ready to march in and join them.

Upon the 20th, his Majesty's ship Jason, Captain Champain, arrived at Prince Rupert's. At midnight, on the 5th of June, the French fleet were seen from Fort Shirley; every man was at his post to receive them by four A.M.; about five they were nearly within gun-shot, and lay becalmed until ten, when a breeze sprung up, and they hoisted their colours, and made sail for Guadaloupe.

"On the morning of the 2d, a number of vessels were seen from the heights of St. Lucia, steering down to windward of St. Vincent's, which General Brereton supposed to be the enemy's fleet, and immediately sent off a dispatch vessel to Barbadoes with the intelligence. General Prevost had sent a neutral vessel from Prince Rupert's, on the 1st, with dispatches for the commander of the forces, and with orders to reconnoitre Fort Royal harbour, and give the commander of the forces what information they could collect. Both these vessels reached Barbadoes at the same time; and, unluckily, although the neutral reported having seen the enemy's fleet at anchor on the 2d, and met the American vessels coming out, the information from St. Lucia was preferred, and his lordship steered for Trinidad."

"His Majesty's sloop Stork, off Mona,
March 25th, 1805.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you, that the pinnace and cutter of the Stork, with eighteen men, under the command of Lieutenant Robertson, assisted by Lieutenant Murray, on the night of the 23d instant, cut out of the harbour of Cape Roxo, in Porto Rico, the Dutch schooner privateer Antelope, of five guns and fifty-four men, forty of which only were on board, and of that number but fifteen were made prisoners, the rest making their escape by jumping into the water.

"As the Antelope was prepared to heave down on the following day, her guns, &c. were on board a brig, alongside of which she was lashed, and from the circumstance of her crew being divided between the two vessels, and prepared to defend themselves, it became necessary to board them both at once, which was effected in a very gallant manner, without any other accident on our part, than that of Lieutenant Murray and one seaman being slightly

Annual Register, 1805, pp. 211. 213.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xiii. p. 495.

Captain Nourse, in his Majesty's ship Barbadoes, on the 8th of April, off Barbadoes, captured the French privateer schooner La Desirée, of fourteen guns and seventy-one men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 74.

wounded. Lieutenant Robertson, whom I have always found an active and valuable officer, appears to have conducted himself upon the present occasion with great steadiness, and I have much pleasure in acknowledging the sense I entertain of his merit, as well as that of Lieutenant Murray and the seamen employed.

"The Antelope is a fine vessel, and a remarkably fast sailer.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"G. Le Geyte."

"To Rear-Admiral Dacres,
Commander-in-Chief."

"His Majesty's sloop Kingsfisher, off
Cape St. Juan, 11th April.

"Sir,

"Two boats from the ship under my command, under the direction of Lieutenants Standish and Smith, brought out from the anchorage of the above Cape, the Damas, Spanish privateer, pierced for four guns, mounting only one eight-pounder, forty muskets, with a crew of fifty-seven men. Though the crew made some resistance, both from the vessel and on shore, I have the pleasure to add it was without loss. She was equipped ten days ago at Cumana, for a cruize off Demerara. This is her first and unsuccessful effort.

"I am, &c.

"W. R. Cribb, Commander."

"The Hon. Admiral Cochrane."

"For centuries the commerce of Mexico with the mother country had never been so impeded as in 1805. In this year the value of exports from Vera Cruz for Spain only amounted to 12,000 piastres, while at an average it amounts to twenty-two millions of piastres." A proof of the activity of the British navy in the West Indies.

Captain Dashwood's Report of a gallant Affair at Cuba.

"Bacchante, New Providence,
April 13th, 1805.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to acquaint you that on the 3d instant, his Majesty's ship under my direction captured, off the Havaña, His Catholic Majesty's schooner L'Elizabeth, of ten guns and fifty-seven men, commanded by Don Joseph Fer Fexeyron: she was charged with dispatches from the governor of Pensacola, which were thrown overboard previous to her surrendering. Having re-

Humboldt's New Spain, vol. iv. p. 368.; Additions.
Annual Register, 1805, p. 45.; Official Letter.

Admiral Dacres' tender, the Gracieuse, commanded by Mr. T. B. Smith, midshipman, on the 9th of April, engaged a French schooner, from St. Domingo. The French were beat off in two attempts to board, and obliged to retreat; and were finally driven on shore on Point Vizoa; her crew escaped on shore. The vessel was destroyed by Mr. Smith. The Gracieuse had one man killed and three wounded.

Annual Register, 1805,
p. 68. *Official Letter*.

ceived information there were three French privateers in the harbour of Mariel, (a small convenient port a little to the westward of the Havaña,) which had annoyed most considerably the trade of his Majesty's subjects transiently passing through the gulf, I determined, if possible, to rout this band of pirates, for, from their plundering and ill-treating the crew of every vessel they met with, most particularly the Americans, they were nothing better; and Lieutenants Oliver and Campbell having in the most handsome manner volunteered their service on this hazardous occasion, I dispatched those excellent officers, accompanied by the Honourable Almericas de Courcy, midshipman, on the evening of the 5th instant, in two boats; and as it was absolutely necessary to gain possession of a round tower near forty feet high, on the top of which were planted three long twenty-four pounders, with loop-holes round its circumference for musketry, and manned with a captain and thirty soldiers, I gave directions to attack and carry the fort previous to their entering the harbour, so as to enable them to secure a safe retreat. Lieutenant Oliver, the senior officer, being in the headmost boat, finding himself discovered, and as not a moment was to be lost at such a critical period, most nobly advanced without waiting for his friend, landed in the face of and in opposition to a most tremendous fire, without condescending to return the salutation, mounted the fort by a ladder which he had previously provided, and fairly carried it by a coup de main, with thirteen men, leaving M. De Courcy, with three others, to guard the boat, with an accident to only one brave man (G. Allison) wounded, who was unfortunately shot through the body before the boat touched the ground, but I am happy to say he is already rapidly recovering. The enemy had two killed and three wounded. Lieutenant Oliver, leaving Serjeant Denslow, of the marines, (who, from his bravery and good conduct, deserves great praise,) with six men to guard the fort, and having been joined by Lieutenant Campbell, dashed on to attack the privateers; but, to their great mortification, found they had sailed the day previous on a cruize. He was therefore obliged to be contented with taking possession of two schooners laden with sugar, which he most gallantly brought away from alongside a wharf, in spite of repeated discharges of musketry from the troops and militia which poured down in numbers from the surrounding country. I should not have been thus particular in recounting a circumstance which was not attended with ultimate success, were it not to mark my admiration of the noble conduct of Lieutenant Oliver in so gallantly attacking and carrying a fort,

Annual Register, 1805, p. 45. Captain Dashwood's Letter.

On the 14th of May, Captain Dashwood, in his Majesty's ship Bacchante, captured Le Felix, Spanish letter of marque, of ten guns and forty-two men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 72.

which, with the men it contained, ought to have maintained its position against fifty times the number that were opposed; but nothing could withstand the prompt and manly steps taken by that officer and his gallant crew on this occasion; and as in my humble judgment the attempt was most daring and hazardous, and, had the privateers been there, I doubt not but success would have attended it, so I humbly solicit the honour of notice to this gallant officer.

"C. Dashwood."

"Sir, "Papillon, Savana la Mar, 15th April, 1805.

"Having anchored at Savana la Mar, I gained intelligence from the master of a droger, that a Spanish felucca-rigged privateer was off the west end, to the very great annoyance of the coast; and being very apprehensive she might make her escape should I go after her in the Papillon, I judged it best to try and take her by stratagem. I accordingly got one of the merchant ships' shallops, and dispatched Lieutenant Prieur, with twenty-five men, disguising her as a droger. At eight the same evening, he fell in with the privateer close under the land. Lieutenant Prieur, in a very cool and brave manner, allowed her to row alongside, and make herself fast before the enemy discovered his mistake. He then ordered the men from below, fired a volley of musketry into her, and boarded; and, I am happy to inform you, in four minutes she was completely in our possession. She proves to be the Concepcion, Spanish privateer, of one brass three pounder and twenty-five men, well armed and equipped, about twenty-five tons burthen; out five days from Manchineel harbour, in the island of Cuba, and had made no captures.

The loss of the enemy was considerable, having had seven men killed and drowned, and eight badly wounded; we, I am happy to say, had only two slightly wounded. Four of her men swam on shore, and have since been taken up by the militia. The prisoners I landed here, who were taken charge of by the militia; the wounded are in the hospital, with proper medical attendants. The conduct of Lieutenant Prieur and Mr. J. Christie, purser (who volunteered his services), the petty officers and men, on this occasion, I cannot too highly recommend to your notice.

"I have the honour to be,

"Rear-Admiral Dacres." "William Worlsey."

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship La Franchise, off Curaçoa, April 25th, 1805.

"I have the honour to inform you, that on my arrival off the town of this island, on the 24th instant, we observed a schooner to leeward of us. On standing for her, she hauled in under the fort of Port Maria, and came to an anchor; we followed, and, after about

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. pp. 73, 74.

an hour's firing at the fort and her, we had the satisfaction to get her out. She proved to be a tender to the Dutch frigate, Kelen Hasshler, now lying in Curaçoa, and commanded by a lieutenant, with thirty-five men, twenty-four of which, with the lieutenant and surgeon, were on board when taken possession of, the former wounded; the rest made their escape on shore. We have unfortunately one man very badly wounded, and two slightly. Some of our rigging cut, but not materially damaged.

"I have the honour to be,

"To Rear-Admiral Dacres." "JOHN MURRAY."

Upon the 29th of November, Lord Lavington, captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Leeward Islands, issued a proclamation, permitting certain articles, the produce of America, to be imported, particularly all sorts of pickled and salted fish, for the space of six months, by the expiration of which period, the proclamation says, "some means may be devised by which his Majesty's Leeward Islands may be supplied with the said articles from the ports of his Majesty's own dominions."

On the 1st of May, 1805, Sir Samuel Hood was invested with the order of the Bath at Antigua, by the governor, Lord Lavington, who, after the investiture, said, "Commodore Sir Samuel Hood, after the honour which you have this day received by command of his Majesty, no eulogy from me of those services which have so meritoriously obtained it can enhance its value or deserve your acceptance. But I cannot repress the expression of my own gratification, in being delegated by my sovereign to administer a mark of his royal favour to a gallant officer, the very name of whose family occurs in no page of our naval history without circumstances of celebrity and distinction. There wants no herald to proclaim the

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 181. Official Papers.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 335.

On the 14th of May, Captain Dashwood, in his Majesty's ship Bacchante, captured Le Felix, Spanish letter of marque, of ten guns and forty-two men.

Captain Bligh in his Majesty's ship Surveillante, on the 3d of May, captured the Spanish schooner privateer El Refusgo, of three guns and fifty-three men.

Captain Lamborn, in his Majesty's sloop Peterell, on the 13th of May, off Cuba, captured a Spanish privateer schooner, of five guns and 106 men.

Captain Crofton, in his Majesty's sloop Racoon, of St. Lucia, on the 13th of May, captured a Spanish privateer felucca, of one gun and forty men.

Captain Atkins, in his Majesty's ship Seine, off Inagua, on the 30th of April, captured La Perseverante, French privateer schooner, of five guns and eighty-four men.

Captain Younghusband, in his Majesty's ship Heureux, off Cape Nicola Mole, on the 31st of May, captured the French felucca privateer La Desirée, of one gun and forty men.

Captain Mudge, in his Majesty's ship Blanche, off St. Domingo, captured L'Amitie, French national schooner, of fourteen guns and eighty-five men, on the 10th of June.

Admiral Dacres reports, that between the 1st of March and the 1st of June, 1805, the squadron under his command had captured thirty-three sail.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv.
pp. 72. 159, 160, 161.

well-known, well-earned reputation of the two veteran chiefs of it, who are now enjoying it in honourable repose from danger and fatigue, under the shade of those honours which the services of their past lives have so eminently merited. But your nearest and ever to be lamented relative[1] has secured to himself a place in the temple of fame paramount to all the ranks and titles which princes can confer, and which the King of kings alone can bestow, the glory of sealing with his blood, in the arms of victory, a life spent in and devoted to the service of his King and country. May this period of renown, if ever it be destined for you, although the ultimate ambition of patriots and of heroes, be far, far distant, for the sake of that country, for the sake of every object which is dear to you. May your conduct, of which the harbour of Toulon and the bay of Aboukir were witnesses, be only the presage of your future trophies, and still more splendid achievements. And may you, in the mean time, after a safe and prosperous voyage, experience that auspicious reception from our gracious sovereign, which the best of masters will feel to be due to a brave and faithful servant."

Addresses of thanks from the council and house of assembly at Antigua, and from the inhabitants of the Virgin Islands, were sent to Commodore Sir Samuel Hood.

Captain J. Coghlan's Report of his destroying the General Ernouf Privateer.

"His Majesty's sloop Reynard, Port Royal, Jamaica,
April 27th, 1805.

"SIR,

"Having escorted the Chesterfield packet to the latitude directed in your order of the 16th of March last, and being on my way to carry into effect the latter part of it, I have the honour to acquaint you, that at eleven A.M. on Friday the 20th ult., being in latitude 21° 14′ N. and longitude 71° 30′, a ship was seen to leeward, standing under easy sail to the N.W. All sail was instantly made in chase, and the stranger soon discovered to be an enemy, who, upon our approach, shortened sail, evidently with an intention to engage us. At twenty minutes past two P.M., having reduced our sail, I closed with the enemy, who opened his fire upon us; but not a gun was fired from this ship until within pistol-shot, at which distance she was placed on the enemy's weather bow, when a heavy fire commenced, that reflects infinite praise on the officers who directed it; for at the short period of thirty-five minutes, the enemy was discovered to be on fire, and in ten minutes after blew up, with

Annual Register, 1805, p. 60.

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[1] Captain Alexander Hood, of his Majesty's ship Mars, was killed on the 21st of April, 1798, in action with L'Hercule, French seventy-four. The author was with him upon the quarter-deck in this action, and has great satisfaction in recording this tribute to the memory of his best patron.

a dreadful explosion. Every possible exertion was now made to get the only boat that could swim to the relief of the few brave but unfortunate survivors, who had just before so gallantly defended themselves, and who were now seen all around us on the scattered remnants of the wreck, in a mangled and truly distressing state; but it is with pleasure I add, that of the few who escaped the flames, not a man was drowned, amounting to fifty-five. The ship proved to be the General Ernouf, a privateer, late his Majesty's sloop Lily, commanded by M. Paul Gerard Pointe, seven days from Basse Terre, Guadaloupe, carrying eighteen twelve-pounders carronades, and two long guns, (four more than in his Majesty's service,) with a complement of 160 men, (thirty-one of whom were soldiers,) going to cruize for the homeward-bound Jamaica fleet. The enemy's loss was great before the melancholy scene that put an end to the action, having between twenty and thirty men killed and wounded; and I am singularly happy to acquaint you, that mine is inconsiderable, nine men only being wounded, some slightly, and I hope none dangerously. The steady, cool, and determined conduct of the officers and men serving under my order was truly meritorious, and gives them just claims on every commendation that it is in the power of their commander to bestow. Our sails, running and standing rigging, have suffered much, the enemy's fire being principally directed against them. The second captain and one lieutenant are the only surviving officers. This ship cruized with great success against the trade of his Majesty's subjects, having made six valuable captures on her former cruize.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To Rear-Admiral Dacres." " JEREMIAH COGHLAN."

Captain Hardyman's Letter to Rear-Admiral Dacres.

" His Majesty's ship Unicorn, at sea,
May 6th, 1805.

" SIR,

" I beg leave to inform you of the capture of the French national privateer Le Tape-a-bord, mounting four six-pounders, well armed, and carrying forty-six men, commanded by Citizen Hemiguelth, by the boats of his Majesty's ship under my command On the north side of St. Domingo, Cape François bearing S.W. by S. distance eight or nine leagues, on the morning of the 6th instant, a strange sail was seen on the larboard bow, distance seven or eight miles. Having then light airs, and inclinable to calm, and perceiving the stranger was using every effort with his sweeps to escape, and apparently full of men, and no hopes of my closing with his Majesty's ship, I directed Henry Smith Wilson, first lieutenant, with four boats, assisted by James Tait, and Henry Bourchier, second and third lieutenants, backed by the volunteer services of Thomas

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 61.

Tudor Tucker, a passenger belonging to his Majesty's ship Northumberland, Walter Powell, lieutenant of marines, and Charles Rundle, purser of his Majesty's ship under my command, to proceed with the boats, and endeavour to come up with the chase. The cool and determined manner in which this service was performed, after a pull of many hours, and the strong opposition they met with from the well-directed fire of the guns and musketry kept up by the privateer, induce me thus publicly to express my approbation of every officer, seaman, and marine engaged on this service; and, I am happy to add, that no lives were lost on the occasion. This privateer was from Samana, on a cruize, out ten days, without taking any thing.

"I am, &c.

"To Rear-Admiral Dacres,
Jamaica."

"L. T. Hardyman."

Admiral Villeneuve's Report of taking an English Convoy.

"From on board His Imperial Majesty's ship the Bucentaure, at sea, 22d Prairial (11th April.)

"My Lord,

"I have the honour to inform you, that on the 19th instant (April 8th) having doubled Antigua, I got information that in the N.N.E. was a convoy of the enemy, consisting of fifteen sail.

"I made signal for a general chase, and at night-fall the whole of the convoy was in my power, which I sent off to Martinico.

"These ships, which had come out of Antigua, were all laden with colonial produce, and destined for Europe. The convoy may be valued at five millions.

"I entreat your excellency to accept my respects.

"Villeneuve."

"P.S. The Didon frigate has just taken a lugger of fourteen guns and forty-nine men."

Letters from Captain Akins to Admiral Dacres.

"Seine, off Aquadilla, Puerto Rico,
27th May, 1805.

"Sir,

"This morning, Lieutenant Bland, of marines, commanding the Seine's barge, captured the Spanish schooner Concepcion, of two guns, long six-pounders, and ten men. She had many passengers on board, who assisted in making some resistance; but they could

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. pp. 160, 171.

Lieutenant Benarding, in his Majesty's cutter Sandwich, off the West Caicos, on the 6th and 7th of May, 1805, captured three French privateer schooners:—La Renommée, of three guns and fifty-six men; La Rencontre, of two guns and forty-two men; and La Venus, of one gun and thirty-five men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 165.

not withstand the gallant attack of the barge. The passengers escaped in a small boat. The Concepcion is from Santa Maxta Martha, laden with logwood, a new schooner, and sails very fast. The prisoners, nine in number, appear sickly, and I shall land them immediately, to prevent the introduction of disease into the Seine, which I trust will meet your approbation.

"I have the honour to be,
"David Atkins."

"Sir, "Seine, off Aquadilla, June 18th, 1805.

"Lieutenant Bland, of the marines, commanding the Seine's barge, returned this morning from a short cruize, in which he destroyed a Spanish sloop, and captured the Concepcion, a large Spanish felucca, of two long four-pounders and fourteen men, after an action of three quarters of an hour; the enemy had five men severely wounded, and, I am happy to add, not a man was hurt in the barge. This is the second very gallant dash of Mr. Bland since our arrival here; in both he has acquired much credit; and he speaks, in the strongest terms, of the gallantry and good conduct of Mr. Edward Cook, midshipman, who accompanied him, and of all the boat's crew. The felucca is laden with cocoa and cochineal, and was bound from Porto Rico to Cadiz.

"I have the honour to be,
"J. R. Dacres, Esq., "D. Atkins."
Commander-in-Chief."

Upon the 4th of June, Lord Nelson, with the fleet under his command, arrived at Barbadoes, "whither he had sent dispatches before him, and where he found Admiral Cochrane with two ships, part of our squadron in those seas being at Jamaica. He found here also accounts that the combined fleets had been seen from St. Lucia on the 28th, standing to the southward, and that Tobago and Trinidad were their objects. This Nelson doubted; but he was alone in his opinion, and yielded it with these foreboding words, 'If your intelligence proves false, you lose me the French fleet.' Sir William Myers offered to embark here with 2,000 troops; they were taken on board, and the next morning he sailed for Tobago. Here accident confirmed the false intelligence which had, whether from intention or error, misled him. A merchant at Tobago, in the general alarm, not knowing whether this fleet was friend or foe, sent out a schooner to reconnoitre, and acquaint him by signal. The signal which he had chosen, happened to be the very one which had been appointed by Colonel Shipley, of the engineers, to signify that the enemy were at Trinidad, and as this was at the close of day, there was no opportunity of

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 166. Annual Register, 1805, p. 347.
Southey's Life of Nelson, vol. ii. p. 215.

discovering the mistake. An American brig was met with about the same time, the master of which, with that propensity to deceive the English, and assist the French, in any manner, which has been but too common among his countrymen, affirmed that he had been boarded off Grenada, a few days before, by the French, who were standing towards the Bocas of Trinidad. This fresh intelligence removed all doubts. The ships were cleared for action before daylight, and Nelson entered the Bay of Paria on the 7th, hoping and expecting to make the mouths of the Orinoco as famous in the annals of the British navy as those of the Nile. Not an enemy was there, and it was discovered that accident and artifice had combined to lead him so far to leeward, that there could have been little hope of fetching to windward of Grenada for any other fleet. Nelson, however, with skill and exertions never exceeded and almost unexampled, bore for that island. Advices met him on the way, that the combined fleets, having captured the Diamond Rock, were then at Martinico on the 4th, and were expected to sail that night for the attack of Grenada. On the 9th, Nelson arrived off that island, and there learnt, that they had passed to leeward of Antigua the preceding day, and taken a homeward-bound convoy. Had it not been for false information, upon which Nelson had acted reluctantly, and in opposition to his own judgment, he would have been off Port Royal just as they were leaving it, and the battle would have been fought on the spot where Rodney defeated De Grasse. This he remembered in his vexation, but he had saved the colonies, and above 200 ships laden for Europe, which would else have fallen into the enemy's hands; and he had the satisfaction of knowing, that the mere terror of his name had effected this, and had put to flight the allied enemies, whose force nearly doubled that before which they fled. That they were flying back to Europe he believed, and for Europe he steered in pursuit, on the 13th, having disembarked the troops at Antigua, and taken with him the Spartiate, seventy-four, the only addition to the squadron with which he was pursuing so superior a force. Five days afterwards, the Amazon brought intelligence, that she had spoke a schooner, who had seen them on the evening of the 15th, steering to the north, and by computation eighty-seven leagues off.

"Nelson's diary at this time denotes his great anxiety, and his perpetual and all-observing vigilance. 'June 21st, midnight, nearly calm, saw three planks, which I think came from the French fleet. Very miserable, which is very foolish.' On the 17th of July, he came in sight of Cape St. Vincent, and steered for Gibraltar. July the 18th, he made Cape Spartil; the next day he anchored at Gibraltar, and, 'on the 20th,' says he, 'I went on shore for the first time since June 16th, 1803, and from having my foot out of the Victory two years wanting ten days.'"

Southey's Life of Nelson, vol. ii. p. 216.

Capture of the Diamond Rock.

The Martinico Gazette of the 14th June, gives a long and detailed account, in a report from the chef-d'escadre, Boyer, aid-du-camp to the captain-general, Villaret Joyeuse, of that most *brilliant* achievement, the capture of the Diamond Rock. The report says, that "Captain Boyer embarked, on the 9th Prairial, 200 troops, and was convoyed by two seventy-fours, a frigate, and a brig. On the 11th, he divided them into two divisions: between nine and ten o'clock he effected a landing, much sooner than he expected, under a most heavy fire from the English, from the heights of the rock, the lower part having been abandoned. The scaling of the rock seemed perfectly easy, and I made my dispositions accordingly. But the moment we had landed, this illusion ceased. I saw nothing but immense precipices, perpendicular rocks, a threatening enemy, whom it was impossible to reach, and insurmountable difficulties on all sides. Our troops suffered severely from a galling fire of musquetry, large fragments of the rocks, cannon-balls, and casks filled with stones, which they poured upon us. They were entrenched in a number of cavities, which nature had formed at different heights, which it was impossible to reach but by ladders forty feet high. The tremendous fire of the enemy had obliged the boats to retreat, and the ships had drifted into the offing, and we remained without support or provisions; we had no resource but to retreat into cavities in the rock, between which the English succeeded in cutting off all communication. At night the enemy did not at all relax in their defence. I endeavoured to reconnoitre the rock on all sides. Towards midnight a boat approached, and landed sixty grenadiers, with provisions. On the 12th, in the evening, I determined to summon the garrison to surrender the following morning. In the course of the night we received more provisions, &c. &c., and the rest of the grenadiers of the 32d. On examining the rock immediately over our cavern, it occurred to me that it could be scaled; I sent accordingly for scaling ladders, and desired a captain and lieutenant, and sixty grenadiers to prepare for the attempt in the morning. My intention to summon the garrison was of course relinquished, and my plan being formed, I ordered all my men to search every where for an outlet. About nine in the morning, a number of them returned, to inform me that they had succeeded in climbing up different parts of the rock. About an hour after, Captain Cortes informed me, some of his men had gained a height, which commanded the entrance of the great house, and had fastened to the rocks some ropes which they found; but as the rock was forty feet high, they did not descend within reach. Part of the staircase of the great house was then brought away, which enabled them to reach the

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 172.

ropes; but none seemed inclined to ascend, until Lieutenant Girandon climbed up the summit of the height, with the rapidity of an arrow, and was followed by a number of grenadiers, marines, and soldiers. To assist this attack, I caused a number of men to conceal themselves in the rocks and buildings facing the little savannah, in order to prevent their supporting their right flank, which our troops had attacked. In the mean time, Captain Brunet had climbed up at the head of the grenadiers, and Captain Cortes overcame every thing he found in his way. It was now all over with the Diamond, and we should have had possession of it in a few hours, when Lafine arrived with a flag of truce, the garrison having thrown out a signal for capitulation, which our situation prevented us from seeing. The firing immediately ceased. Articles of capitulation were agreed upon, and at sun-rise on the 14th, Captain Maurice descended with his garrison, agreeable to the articles, filed off in front of our troops, and laid down their arms and colours. The number of effective men amounted to 107. We had fifty killed and wounded."

Captain Maurice's Report of the Loss of the Diamond Rock.

" To Rear-Admiral Cochrane.

" Sir, Barbadoes, June 19th, 1805.

" In my letter of the 14th of May, to Sir Francis Laforey, I informed him of the arrival of the enemy's combined squadron off the rock, and of our having had one hour's partial action with them as they passed. Their force consisted of sixteen sail of the line, eight frigates, three brigs, one armed en-flute, and his Majesty's late sloop Cyane.

" On the 16th of May, at half past seven in the morning, saw a large ship rounding Point Saline, and from her appearance I plainly saw she was a ship of the line, and from the cut of her sails, an enemy. At eight she hoisted a Spanish ensign and pendant. I immediately directed French colours to be hoisted as a decoy, which fully answered my wishes; for at twenty minutes before nine she had got under the lee of the rock, at the distance of three quarters of a mile, when I shifted the colours, and opened a well-directed fire of round and grape from Fort Diamond. The first shot striking her under the fore channels, she directly put her helm up, and in the act of wearing, returned one feeble shot. From the little winds, she did not get out of the range of shot until nine, but continued running before the wind until twelve. At two, an enemy's brig stood out of Port Royal, and beat to windward of the rock, where she continued to cruize. I was now fully satisfied in my own mind of the intention of the enemy to attack the rock. From the 16th to the 29th, the rock was completely blockaded by

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 125.

frigates, brigs, schooners, and small boats, sloop-rigged, which prevented any supplies being thrown in to me; for, on the 25th, a sloop from St. Lucia, with my second lieutenant, who had carried dispatches to Barbadoes, and the purser, who had gone over to complete the provisions to four months, were taken under my guns, endeavouring to throw in some barrels of powder, although we covered her with a spirited fire from Fort Diamond, Centaur's battery, and Maurice's battery. On the 29th, at half past five in the evening, two ships of the line, one frigate, and a schooner, with eleven gun-boats in tow, stood out from Fort Royal, under all sail. I now had not the smallest doubt that the squadron was intended for the attack of the Diamond.

" The rock was put in the best state of defence it could, as far as little ammunition and water would allow; but I was determined to defend it while I had any remaining. On the 30th, at sun-rise, the enemy's squadron had fallen far to leeward; but the wind unfortunately veering very much to the southward, (indeed farther than I had known it for some months) enabled them to fetch as high as St. Ann's Bay, where they continued under easy sail for the night. On the morning of the 31st, at sun-rise, they were still under easy sail, far to windward; but from the number of their signals, and having cast off their boats, I was convinced the attack would be made soon. At seven, the enemy bore up in a line for the rock, the gun-boats, &c. keeping within them, crowded with troops. Seeing the impossibility of defending the lower works against such a force, and the certainty of our being prevented from gaining the heights without considerable loss, and which could not be defended for any time without us, with the greatest reluctance, I ordered the whole above the first lodgment, having a man at each gun, to give the enemy their discharge, which they did, and joined me over the North Garden Pass, excepting the cook, who was made prisoner. What powder was left below we drowned, and cut away the launch, that she might not be serviceable to the enemy. At ten minutes before eight we had every person up, and the ladders secured, when the Berwick opened her fire within pistol-shot; and at eight, the whole of the enemy's squadron of ships and gun-boats were in action, which was returned by Hood's battery and Fort Diamond; the whole of the troops in the boats keeping up a heavy fire of musketry. It was a fortunate circumstance we quitted the lower works when we did, as our own stones, hove down by the enemy's shot, would have killed and wounded the whole of us. I was now busily employed in placing the people on the different lodgements, with small arms, to harass the enemy as they landed, and cover themselves. I am happy to say, that the execution done was considerable; for the fire of our men was so galling, that the seamen left their boats, excepting three men in each, who were

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 125.

shot dead, and three of the gun-boats went adrift; two of them went on shore at Martinico, and were beat to pieces, and the other went to sea. The whole of the enemy's squadron were constantly employed during this day in bombarding the rock, as they could fetch in to windward of it. At night, the whole of the men were posted on different lodgements to harass the enemy as they threw in supplies and reinforcements. On the 1st, the enemy's squadron employed constantly bombarding the rock; the fire from the troops much more spirited. On the 2d, the enemy bombarding as before, who had been reinforced with another brig; but the fire from the troops this day very severe, as they had, during the night, got under the rocks in the surf, and were covered by the overhanging rocks; and as our men appeared, they fired up. At four in the afternoon, on examining into our ammunition, I found we had but little powder left, and not a sufficient quantity of ball cartridges to last until dark; and being firmly of opinion the enemy meant to endeavour to carry the heights by assault that night, I thought it a duty I owed to those brave fellows, who had so gallantly supported me during three days and two nights' constant battle, to offer terms of capitulation; and, having consulted my first lieutenant, who was of the same opinion, at half past four, the unhappiest moment of my life, I threw out a flag of truce, which returned at five with honourable terms for the garrison; and the next morning we embarked on board the Pluton and Berwick; and on the 4th, we were sent to Barbadoes in a cartel, agreeable to the articles, except fourteen men, which they forcibly detained unknown to me, getting men to swear they were French. I have written to Captain Kempt, agent for prisoners of war, stating the business, as well as their endeavouring to entice the whole of my crew to enter into their service; but thank God, I trust no Englishman, let him be ever so bad, is base enough to do it. I beg leave to recommend, in the strongest terms, the able and gallant support I received from my first lieutenant, Mr. R. A. Wadham, and whose services, at different times, in carrying dispatches to Barbadoes, relating to the enemy, merits my warmest acknowledgements. I am also much indebted to Lieutenant Watson, of the marines, for his active and able support. Those, Sir, were the only officers I had; but I needed not more; for the conduct of the whole of my people was so active, orderly, and gallant, that I shall always reflect on it with pleasure, to the latest day of my life. Indeed, when you observe, that we had only two killed and one wounded, you will perceive, that had not my orders been put in execution with the greatest promptness and attention, we must have met with great loss; and had I let loose their valour, I should have lost half my men. Their fatigue and hardships are beyond description, having only a pint of water during twenty-four hours,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 125.

under a vertical sun, and not a moment's rest, day or night; and several of them fainted for want of water, and obliged to drink their own. A schooner had brought out sixty scaling ladders, to attempt us that night, under cover of the ships, and four more ships of the line were to have come against us the next day. Indeed, the whole of the combined squadron's launches were employed on the service, and not less than 3000 men. The captain of the Sirene frigate was wounded through the knee. My only consolation is, that although I unfortunately lost the rock, I trust its defence was honourable, and hope it will merit your approbation.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"J. W. MAURICE."

Captain Maurice's Letter to Lord Nelson.

"SIR, "Barbadoes, 6th June, 1805.

"It is with the greatest sorrow I have to inform you of the loss of the Diamond Rock under my command, which was obliged to surrender on the 2d instant, after three days' attack from a squadron of two sail of the line, one frigate, one brig, a schooner, eleven gun-boats, and, from the nearest calculation, 1500 troops. The want of ammunition and water was the sole occasion of this unfortunate loss. Although I shall never cease to regret the accident, yet it is some consolation to think so many valuable lives are saved to his Majesty's service, having only two killed and one wounded. The enemy, from the nearest account I have been able to obtain, lost on shore thirty killed and forty wounded, independent of the ships and boats; they also lost three gun-boats and two rowing boats. Allow me to speak in the highest terms of the officers and men under my command, and I trust when the court-martial shall have taken place, that their hardships, fatigue, and gallantry will merit your lordship's approbation, having been nineteen nights under arms, and some of them obliged to drink their own water. I beg leave to inclose the articles of capitulation.[1]

"I have the honour to remain, &c.

"To Lord Nelson." "J. W. MAURICE."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 123.

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[1] *Articles of Capitulation.*

"ART. 1. That the garrison, with all its works, shall be delivered up entire.

"2. That the garrison shall be allowed to march with their arms to the Queen's Battery, with drums beating and colours flying, and there lay down their arms.

"3. That all private property shall be secured to the officers and men.

"4. That the garrison shall be sent to Barbadoes, at the expense of the French nation, but not to serve till regularly exchanged.

"5. That the garrison is capable of holding out a few days longer, and two hours given for an answer, when hostilities will be recommenced.

"J. W. MAURICE."

List of the French Squadron.

Pluton, 74; Berwick, 74; Sirene, 40; Argus, brig, 16; Le Fien, schooner, 18 swivels; and eleven gun-boats, each mounting three pieces of cannon.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 124.

Nelson's Letter to Captain Maurice.

" Sir, " Victory, at sea, June 8th, 1805.

" I have received your letter of the 6th instant, acquainting me with the surrender of the Diamond Rock under your command, on the 2d of this month, to a squadron of the enemy's ships and gun-boats therein mentioned, together with the terms of capitulation which accompanied your said letter; in answer to which, while I regret the loss of the Diamond, I have no doubt that every exertion has been used by yourself and those under your command for its defence, and that its surrender has been occasioned from the circumstances you represent. It is particularly gratifying that so few lives were lost in the contest, and I have very fully to express my approbation of the terms of capitulation, as well as with your conduct personally, and that of the officers and men under your command, which I have to request you will be pleased to communicate to them.

" I am, Sir,
" Your most obedient humble servant,
" Nelson and Bronte."

Lord Nelson's letter, in answer to Captain Maurice, must have given him much satisfaction.

Captain Mudge's Report of the Loss of his Majesty's Ship Blanche.

" Sir,

" I am sorry to inform you of the loss of his Majesty's ship Blanche, which was captured by a French squadron, as per margin,[1] but thank God she was not destined to bear French colours, or to assist the fleet of the enemy.

" On Friday morning, July 19th, in lat. 20° 20′ N. long. 66° 44′ W., at eight, four sail were seen off the weather cat-head, three ships and a brig, on the opposite tack, under easy sail. I kept to the wind, until we were near enough to distinguish colours. I then made the necessary signals whether they were enemies. At ten, when abreast, about three miles distant, they all bore up, and hoisted English colours, but from the make of the union, and colour of the bunting, with other circumstances, I concluded they were French, and therefore determined to sell the ship as dear as possible,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 124. Annual Register, 1805, p. 105.

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SHIPS.	GUNS.	MEN.	COMMANDERS.
La Topaze	44	480	Captain Bourdin.
Le Departement des Landes	20	236	——— des Mantel.
La Torche	18	213	——— Bruret.
La Faune	16	123	——— Delun.

(for sailing was out of the question, the Blanche having little or no copper on these last nine months, and sailed very heavy.) Having brought to with the main sail in the brails, at eleven, the commodore ranged up within two cables' length, shifted his colours, and gave us his broadside; when within pistol-shot she received ours: the action became warm and steady, the ships never without hail of each other, going large under easy sail, Le Departement des Landes on the starboard quarter, and the two corvettes close astern. At forty-five minutes past eleven, the ship became ungovernable, and was reduced to a perfect wreck. The sails totally destroyed, ten shot in the fore-mast, (expecting it to fall every minute,) the main-mast and rigging cut to pieces, seven guns dismounted, and the crew reduced to 190, and the rest falling fast, with no probability of escape, I called a council of officers for their opinion, who deemed it only sacrificing the lives of the remainder of as brave a crew as ever fought to hold out longer, as there was not the smallest prospect of success; I therefore, at twelve, ordered the colours to be struck, and was immediately hurried on board the commodore. At six, the officers who had charge of the Blanche returned, and reported the ship to be sinking fast, on which she was fired, and in about an hour after she sunk, for the magazine had been some time under water.

"Thus, Sir, fell the Blanche, and I trust, the defence made by her officers and gallant crew will meet their lordships' approbation.

"I have the honour, &c.

"ZACH. MUDGE."

"P. S. Including every individual, when the ship went into action, there were but 215, thirty men being in prizes, and eight left on board one of the frigates at Jamaica. I cannot exactly ascertain those killed and wounded, as the crew were promiscuously distributed to the different ships of the squadron."

Captain Mudge then names eight killed and thirteen wounded.

Upon the 2d of September, a French row-boat privateer, off the Saints, got within reach of his Majesty's armed sloop Dominica's guns, without discovering her to be an armed vessel. It being calm, Lieutenant Robert Petre sent Mr. Jackson, midshipman, with eight men, to attack her in the boat. He came up with her about two leagues from the sloop; after exchanging a few vollies of musquetry, the enemy struck. She had been one day from the Saints, and had sixteen men on board, well equipped. The English had one man wounded.

This boat had been his Majesty's ship Galatea's barge, and was taken by the French in the harbour of the Saints, in an unsuc-

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 131. Official Letter.

cessful attempt to cut out his Majesty's sloop Lilly from that place. Lieutenant C. Hayman was killed in her at that time, Lieutenant R. Hall, of the marines, lost his arm, and the master had both his arms broken, and died of his wounds, raving mad. Several men were killed, and more were wounded in this unfortunate attempt. The garrison saw the Galatea hoist her boats out, and were quite prepared to receive them. The English were suffered to advance unmolested into the harbour, until all the batteries, the troops on the beach, and the broadsides of the Lilly, and a large armed schooner, could bear upon them, and then the French opened their fire from all points at once, notwithstanding which, the boats got alongside the Lilly, where the barge was sunk; the cutter narrowly escaped, and returned with the launch and jolly-boat, in a wretched state. Several dozens of musquet balls were found in the boats, all of which the French had jagged with some sharp tool, to render them more difficult of extraction. This detestable custom, peculiar to that nation, is as useless as cruel, for the effects of such balls can only be felt long after the fate of the action in which they are used has been decided. Swords, with a waved edge, are almost as bad. So many officers and men were killed, taken, and wounded, that the Galatea was obliged to proceed immediately to English harbour.

" Sir, " Mariamne schooner, Balize, 4th September, 1805.

" I beg leave to acquaint you, that in pursuance of your orders I proceeded, with the schooner you placed under my command, to the southward; and while cruizing on that station, and off the island of Bonacca, received information from the Caribean fishermen, that a guarda costa was at anchor under the batteries of Truxillo, and that she had lately captured and carried into that port the schooner Admiral Duckworth, of Jamaica, with another vessel, name unknown, from Honduras. I therefore maturely considered the incalculable injury such a vessel might cause to the settlement; and, conceiving it a duty incumbent on myself to prevent, if possible, further depredations, summoned the people aft, and, on my stating the case to them, they very readily volunteered to make an attempt to cut her out. Accordingly, on the evening of the 13th ultimo, I stood over under cover of the night for the harbour of Truxillo, and got well into the bay without being discovered; when I manned two small boats with six men in each, under the charge of Mr. Walker, boatswain, in the one, and Mr. Bowler, midshipman, in the other, with directions to pull in close along shore, and examine if our information was correct, standing in at the same time with the schooner, to cover the boats, if occasion required. Shortly after, we got sight of the vessel we were in pursuit of, which was immediately boarded

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Annual Register, 1805, p. 131. Official Letter.

with great bravery by the boat's crew under the charge of Mr. Bowler, (the other, from pulling heavy, not being able to get up,) and, after some resistance from the people on deck, they very gallantly got possession of her, the captain and others jumping overboard; the noise this contest occasioned alarmed the forts, which opened upon us a very heavy fire. The cables were then cut, and sail made, the forts keeping a continual fire on us till out of gun-shot, which was returned from both vessels. She proves to be La Caridad Perfecta, schooner-rigged, copper-bottomed, and pierced for sixteen guns, but mounted only with twelve, and had on board but fifteen men, the remainder of her complement being on shore at the time.

"I am happy to add, that in performing this service no person has been hurt.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"To Captain Wright, his Majesty's ship Swift, Honduras." "JAMES SMITH."

Rear-Admiral Cochrane reported, that between the 2d of April and 31st of December, 1805, the squadron under his command had captured twenty-six sail, most of them armed vessels; altogether they carried 111 guns and 1121 men.

On January the 25th, Francis Gore, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of the Bermuda or Somers' Islands.

On March the 29th, Brigadier-General Frederick Maitland was appointed governor of Grenada.

On October the 22d, Lieutenant-General Henry Bowyer was appointed general and commander of the forces serving on the windward and leeward Caribee island station, *vice* General Myers, deceased.

Upon the 5th of October, Captain George Tobin, of his Majesty's ship Princess Charlotte, off Tobago, succeeded in disguising his ship and enticing two French corvettes down within reach of his guns, one of which, the Cyane (formerly in his Majesty's service),

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Annual Register, 1805, pp. 141. 169, 170, 171.

Captain Fyffe, in his Majesty's sloop Reindeer, off Cape Mayze, on the 13th of September, captured La Renommée, of two guns and forty men, belonging to St. Domingo.

Captain Chambers, in his Majesty's sloop Port Mahon, off Cuba, on the 30th of September, captured the Spanish packet El Galgo, of four swivels and thirty men.

Captain M'Donell, in his Majesty's ship Franchise, captured the General Ferrand Spanish privateer, belonging to Santo Domingo, with the boats of the Franchise.

Captain G. M'Kenzie, in his Majesty's sloop Wolf, off Jamaica, on the 19th of October, drove on shore and destroyed La Precieuse cutter, of three guns and twenty-three men.

Captain N. D. Cochrane, in his Majesty's sloop Kingsfisher, off Barbadoes, on the 16th of December, captured L'Elizabeth, French privateer schooner, of fourteen guns and 102 men, from Guadaloupe.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xiv. p. 509.; vol. xv. pp. 75. 252.

of twenty-six guns and one hundred and ninety men, he captured, after killing three of her crew and wounding nine; the other corvette, La Naiad brig, of eighteen guns and two hundred men, escaped. The Princess Charlotte had one man killed and six wounded. Captain Tobin says he was much indebted to the exertions of his first lieutenant Mr. P. Warner.

Upon the 13th of October, Captain Champain, in his Majesty's ship Jason, fell in with the Naiad, in latitude 14° 5′ and longitude 55° 48′, and, after a chase of nine hours, and a partial firing of fifteen minutes, took her. She had on board sixteen long twelves and one hundred and seventy men, one of whom was killed in the action. Captain Champain says that she was one of the largest brigs in the French service.

Upon the 23d of September, "Jacques I., Emperor of Hayti, commander-in-chief of the armies, by the grace of God and the constitutional law of the state, decreed," "That every vessel trespassing against the laws of importation or exportation should be confiscated, hull and cargo.

"That every foreign vessel, within twenty-four hours after her arrival, should declare her intention of disposing of the cargo there, or of sailing to another port.

"Every person purchasing without a permit, to be imprisoned six months, and his property confiscated.

"Every Haytian convicted of having sold produce, before having paid the rent of his farm, the impost of one-fourth, and the proportion receivable by the cultivators, to be prosecuted criminally.

"Every one renting or owning a farm, to carry the one-fourth belonging to the cultivators to the office of the justice of the peace, to be then divided amongst them in his presence, and in that of the commandant of the place, who shall both certify the amount of sales of the said farmers or proprietors.

"Done at the imperial palace, Gonaives, September 23d.

"DESSALINES."

In Barbadoes, the fine for murdering a slave was £15 currency. This year that law was amended, but instead of declaring that the wilful murder of a slave should be the same offence in law with the wilful murder of a free person, it makes it difficult to say what circumstances would suffice to make slave-murder a capital crime; the words are, "If any person shall hereafter wilfully, maliciously, wantonly, and without provocation, kill and murder any slave, whether such slave be the property of the person so killing and

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Annual Register, 1805, pp. 160. 209. Public Paper.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 38.

murdering, or of any other person, such person so killing and murdering, being duly convicted thereof by the evidence of one or more *white* person or persons, &c. shall suffer death."

The recent murders, and the impunity of the perpetrators, had filled England with horror. The doubtful character of this reformation therefore is worthy of remark. All testimony is excluded but that of the privileged class; free coloured persons are incompetent to prove the crime; in all other cases they are competent witnesses against each other; but a free Mulatto who had murdered a slave could not be convicted under this act, unless a white person could prove his crime. No punishment is awarded for the crime of dismemberment or mutilation by any law in Barbadoes, if done by the master, and if committed on another man's slave, it can only be the subject of a civil action.

The Methodists, in St. Vincent's, added upwards of 300 to their society during the last year. This report is dated April 25th, 1805.

In St. Bartholomew's, their numbers amounted to 140, although, when the English took possession of the island, between fifty and sixty of their members were obliged to go to other places to procure a livelihood.

In the island of Providence, they had eleven Whites, eight coloured people, and 120 Blacks in society.

The population of Harbour Island was estimated at about 2500 or 3000 souls.

In Eleuthera, one of the Bahamas, there were four settlements within thirty miles, but as there were no roads cut through the woods, travelling by land was quite impracticable, The inhabitants were mostly white and coloured people, with a few slaves. In general they had little advantage from education, though government had allowed a school for thirty children, but notwithstanding this provision, there were at least 100 children without the means of instruction, through the mere poverty of their parents. The magistrate used to read prayers on sabbath days, but when the Methodist missionary arrived there this year, he gave up the office to him. He says, "the Bahamas are very different from the Windward Islands. The land is bad, and the natives in general very poor. The soil produces so badly, that the men are under the necessity of going to one of the other islands once or twice a year to cut wood, such as lignum vitæ, logwood, brazilita, &c. which they carry to Providence to sell, to buy clothing for their families."

In Eleuthera, in September, the Methodists had fifty-three in society.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 289. ; vol. iii. pp. 86. 211. 213.
Colquhoun's British Empire, p. 363.

	Table of West India Exports, for 1805.	*Return to H.C.*, 1806, *Average* 1805.
	Hhds. of Sugar.	Negroes.
Jamaica	126,000	260,000
Barbadoes	9,000	62,500
Antigua	3,200	36,000
St. Kitt's	8,000	26,000
Nevis	2,400	9,000
Montserrat	2,000	9,000
Tortola, &c.	2,500	8,500
Dominica	4,600	22,083
St. Vincent's	17,200	15,000
Grenada	14,000	21,000
Tobago	15,327	14,883
Trinidad	12,000	19,709
Total	216,227	463,675

Barbadoes, to 1805, returned, on yearly average of sugar crops, 9554 hogsheads.

The exports from Demerary, between the 10th of September, 1804, and the 5th of January, 1805, employed seventy-one vessels; and consisted of 2161 hogsheads, 78 tierces, and 19 barrels of sugar; 504 puncheons of rum; 6318 bales of cotton; 439,520 pounds of coffee; and 311 casks of molasses.

The Jamaica report returns the number of slaves at 308,775; Negroes imported, 5006; exported, 398.[1]

Population of the British West India Isles.

	Whites.	People of Colour.	Slaves.
Jamaica	28,000	9,000	280,000
Barbadoes	15,000	2,130	60,000
Antigua	3,000	1,300	36,000
St. Kitt's	1,800	198	26,000
Nevis	1,300	150	8,000
Montserrat	1,000	250	9,500
Tortola, &c. &c.	1,300	220	9,000
Grenada	1,100	800	20,000
Dominica	1,594	2,822	22,083
St. Vincent's	1,600	450	16.500
Tobago	900	700	14,883
Trinidad	2,261	3,275	19,709
Total	58,955	21,967	521,205

Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, pp 3. 15. 18. 28.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 80.
Stephen's Defence of a Bill for a Registry of Slaves; Appendix, 1816, London.

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[1] The population of Trinidad consisted of 2416 Whites, 5807 free people of colour, 19,984 Slaves, 1733 Indians; total, 29,940. *Political Account of Trinidad*, Lond. 1807.

1806.

Vice-Admiral Dacres to William Marsden, Esq.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Shark, Port Royal, February 9th, 1806.

"I have the pleasure to enclose, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter received from Captain Dashwood, of his Majesty's ship Franchise, giving an account of the behaviour of Lieutenants Fleming and Douglas, and Lieutenant Mends, of the marines, of that ship, with the boats' crews, who in so determined a manner cut out of the bay of Campeachy His Catholic Majesty's brig Raposa, against such superior force and opposition. I trust their lordships will think their conduct worthy of their approbation.

"I am, &c.

"James R. Dacres."

"His Majesty's ship Franchise, at anchor, off Campeachy, January 7th, 1806.

"Sir,

"Having received information from a neutral, that several Spanish vessels had very lately arrived in the bay of Campeachy, and conceiving it practicable, from the local knowledge I had of that place, that they might be cut out without running much risk, I have presumed, in consequence, to extend the limits of the orders with which you honoured me, and proceeded to the anchorage; and although I am well aware of the great responsibility, yet, as it was undertaken solely with a view of forwarding the King's service, by distressing his enemies, so I have the vanity to hope it will be sanctioned with your high approbation.

"I have therefore the honour to report, that I last evening anchored the Franchise, in quarter less four fathoms, abreast the town of Campeachy; and as it was impossible, from the shallowness of the water, to approach nearer to the shore than five leagues, I dispatched the senior officer, Lieutenant J. Fleming, accompanied by Lieutenant P. J. Douglas, the third, Lieutenant Mends, of the marines, and Messrs. Daly, Lamb, Chalmers, and Hamilton, midshipmen, in three boats, with orders to scour the bay, and bring off such of the enemy's vessels as they might fall in with. But from the distance they had to row, joined to the darkness of the night and the uncertainty of their position, it was four o'clock in the morning before they could possibly arrive, long after the rising of the moon, which unfortunately gave the enemy warning of their approach, and ample time for preparation, even to the tricing up of their boarding nettings, and projecting sweeps, to prevent the boats from coming alongside; and although the alarm was thus given from one end of the bay to the other, and instantly com-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 345.

municated to the castle on shore, yet nothing could damp the ardour and gallantry of the officers and crew who had volunteered on this (as it ultimately proved) hazardous service, for that instant two of his Catholic Majesty's brigs, one of twenty guns, and 180 men, the other of twelve guns and ninety men, accompanied by an armed schooner of eight, and supported by seven gun-boats of two guns each, slipped their cables, and commenced a most severe and heavy cannonading on the three boats, which must soon have annihilated them, had not Lieutenant Fleming, with great presence of mind, and unchecked ardour, most boldly dashed on, and instantly laid the nearest brig on board. He was so quickly supported by his friend, Lieutenant Douglas, in the barge, and Mr. Lamb, in the pinnace, that they carried her in ten minutes, notwithstanding the very powerful resistance they met with. The whole of this little flotilla pursued them for some distance, keeping up a constant fire of guns and musketry, which was so smartly returned both by the brig and boats, that they soon retired to their former position, leaving Lieutenant Fleming in quiet possession of his prize, which proved to be the Spanish monarch's brig Raposa, pierced for sixteen, but only twelve guns mounted, exclusive of cohorns, swivels, and numerous small arms, with a complement of ninety men, but only seventy-five actually on board. The captain, Don Joaquin de la Cheva, with the senior lieutenant, the civil officers, and a boat's crew, being absent on shore. She appears almost a new vessel, coppered, sails well, and, in my humble judgment, admirably calculated for his Majesty's service. It is with the most heartfelt satisfaction I have to announce, that this service was performed without the loss of a single man, and only seven slightly wounded. But I lament to say, that that pleasure is, in a great measure, damped by the great effusion of blood on the part of the enemy, they having had an officer and four men killed, and many jumped overboard and were drowned, and the commanding officer and twenty-five wounded, many of whom, I am sorry to add, are, in the surgeon's opinion, mortally. I have therefore, from motives of humanity, sent the whole of them on shore, with a flag of truce, where the brave but unfortunate wounded can be better taken care of, which, I trust, you will approve. Lieutenant Fleming speaks in the highest terms of approbation of the prompt and gallant support he met with from Lieutenant Douglas and men, as well as the other officers and crew under his orders. Indeed, there was not a man on board but was anxious to be of the party; and I am sorry I could not indulge Lieut. T. J. Peschell, the second; but his presence was absolutely necessary on board.

" To an officer of your discriminating judgment, I trust I shall stand excused if I take the liberty of recommending Lieutenant Fleming to your notice, for his meritorious conduct on this occa-

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sion. He appears to me to be an officer of distinguished mrite and bravery, and I understand he was highly respected by his late captain, the good, the amiable, and my gallant predecessor, the Honourable John Murray.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To James Richard Dacres, Esq., " C. Dashwood."
Commander-in-Chief, &c."

Letter from Vice-Admiral Dacres, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels at Jamaica, to William Marsden, Esq.

" Sir, " Port Royal, 13th January, 1806.

" It is with pleasure I transmit, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter which I have received from Captain Hall, of the Malabar, enclosing one from Captain M'Kenzie, of the Wolf, whose conduct on this occasion I feel highly meritorious. Their lordships, always ready to reward merit, will, I am sure, shew their approbation of Captain M'Kenzie's zeal and activity. " I am, &c.

" J. R. Dacres."

" Sir, " His Majesty's ship Malabar, off Port Azarades,
island of Cuba, January 2d, 1806.

" I have the greatest satisfaction in having it in my power to acquaint you, that his Majesty's ship under my command, and his Majesty's sloop Wolf, have this day captured Le Regulateur and Le Napoleon, two of the largest French schooners, privateers, out of St. Jago, protected by a double reef of rocks. Captain M'Kenzie, whose vigilance deserves every praise, saw one of them go in this morning. On coming off the port, I sent the master to sound for anchorage, who found a passage on the reef, through which the Wolf was successfully conducted, and most ably anchored within musket-shot of the enemy, attended by the boats of both the ships, manned and armed. Le Regulateur was armed with a brass eighteen-pounder, four six-pounders, and manned with eighty men. Le Napoleon was armed with one long nine-pounder, two twelve-pounder carronades, and two four-pounders, and manned with sixty-six men; and it is but justice to say they were well defended, the action continuing, without intermission, an hour and three quarters, when the survivors of the crews abandoned them, and landed in the woods, four only being made prisoners, one of whom is mortally wounded. They were then towed without the reefs, when the Regulateur (a remarkable fine schooner) sunk, and I am sorry to say, Thomas Smith, a marine belonging to his Majesty's ship under my command, went down in her: except this man, I have not sustained any loss. The officers, seamen, and marines of the Malabar discharged their duty most perfectly to my satisfaction. Mr. Thomas Fotheringham, the master, deserves particular praise,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 341.

for having, in the shortest time, examined the passage, so that the Wolf could be taken in, a circumstance the enemy had not the least idea could be attempted, and without which the conquest, had it been effected, must have been attended with very serious loss; it is therefore attributable to the gallant, cool, and able manner in which the Wolf was conducted and fought, and which, I beg leave to offer my opinion, merits the fullest acknowledgements of Captain M'Kenzie, and likewise to his officers and ship's company.

"I beg leave to enclose a copy of Captain M'Kenzie's letter to me on the occasion, with his report of killed and wounded on board the Wolf. "I have the honour to be, &c.

"To James Richard Dacres, Esq., "ROBERT HALL."
Commander-in-Chief."

"SIR, "His Majesty's sloop Wolf, Port Azarades, 2d January, 1806.

"I have the honour to acquaint you, in compliance with your orders I proceeded with his Majesty's ship under my command, to cover the boats destined for the attack of the two French privateers in this port; but on approaching, I found them moored in so advantageous a situation, and so well prepared, I thought it would be imprudent to allow them to proceed. I therefore stood in six fathoms water, within a quarter of a mile of the enemy, and opened my fire, which was continued for one hour and three quarters, when I perceived the enemy were quitting the vessels; the boats were then ordered to proceed and take possession. They proved to be the Regulateur and Napoleon schooner; the former a most beautiful vessel, mounting one long eighteen and four six-pounders, brass, with eighty men; the other a very fine vessel also, with one long nine, two twelve-pound carronades, two fours, and sixty-six men. It gives me infinite satisfaction to bear testimony to the cool and determined bravery displayed by every officer and man I had the honour to command; nor can I omit expressing my warmest thanks to Mr. Fotheringham (master of the Malabar), for the very judicious manner in which he conducted the ship to anchor; and also the officers and crew of the Malabar's launch and jolly-boat, who volunteered their services at the guns. I have a most heart-felt satisfaction in having so small a list of killed and wounded to subjoin. The loss of the enemy could not be ascertained; but from the appearance of the decks, it must have been great. I am sorry to add, the Regulateur sunk a short time after being in our possession, by which two unfortunate wounded Frenchmen were lost.

"R. Hall, Esq., Captain of his "G. C. M'KENZIE."
Majesty's ship Malabar."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 341.

Sir J. T. Duckworth's Report of his Action off Santo Domingo.

His Majesty's ship Superb, to leeward of the town of St. Domingo,
about 12 leagues, February 7th, 1806.

"Sir,

"As I think it highly momentous for his Majesty's service, that the lords commissioners of the admiralty should have the earliest information of the movements of the squadron under my command, and as I have no other vessel than the Kingfisher that I feel justified in dispatching, I hope neither their lordships, nor Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood, will deem me defective in my duty towards his lordship, by addressing you on the happy event of yesterday; and as you will receive my letter on the 3d instant herewith, I shall only say, I lost not a moment in getting through the Mona Passage, and on the 5th, in the afternoon, was joined by the Magicienne, with a further corroboration from various vessels spoken, of an enemy's force of ten sail of the line, with as many frigates and corvettes, being in these seas; I therefore continued under easy sail for the night, in my approach off the town of St. Domingo, having given orders to Captain Dunn, of the Acasta, whose zeal and activity I have experienced for a series of years, to make sail with the Magicienne, Captain M‘Kenzie, two hours before daylight, to reconnoitre; when at six o'clock, the Acasta, to our great joy, made the signal for two of the enemy's frigates; and before seven, for nine sail at anchor; at half past that they were getting under weigh; the squadron under my command then in close order with all sail set; and the Superb, bearing my flag, leading, and approaching fast, so as to discover before eight o'clock that the enemy were in a compact line, under all sail, going before the wind for Cape Nisao, to windward of Ocoa Bay, and as they consisted of only five sail of the line, two frigates, and a corvette, (which hereafter will be named,) I concluded, from the information I was in possession of, that they were endeavouring to form a junction with their remaining force, and in consequence shaped my course to render abortive such intention, which was completely effected by a little after nine, so as to make an action certain. I therefore telegraphed the squadron, that the principal object of the attack would be the admiral and his seconds; and at three quarters past nine, for the ships to take stations for their mutual support, and engage the enemy as they got up; and a few minutes after, to engage as close as possible; when, at a short period after ten, the Superb closed upon the bow of the Alexander, the leading ship, and commenced the action; but after three broadsides, she sheered off: the signal was now made for closer action, and we were enabled to attack the admiral in the Imperial, (formerly Le Vengeur,) the fire of which had been heavy on the Northumberland, bearing the Honourable Rear-Admiral Cochrane's flag. By this time, the movement of the Alexander had thrown

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 254.

her among the lee division, which Rear-Admiral Louis happily availed himself of, and the action became general, and continued with great severity till half past eleven; when the French admiral, much shattered, and completely beat, hauled direct for the land, and, not being a mile off, at twenty minutes before noon ran on shore; his fore-mast then only standing, which fell directly on her striking; at which time the Superb being only in seventeen fathom water, was forced to haul off to avoid the same evil; but not long after, the Diomede, of eighty-four guns, pushed on shore near his admiral, when all his masts went; and I think it a duty I owe to character and my country to add, from the information of Sir Edward Barry, after she had struck, and the Agamemnon desisted from firing into her, from the captain taking off his hat, and making every token of surrender; and Captain Dunn assures me, both ensign and pendant were down; to comment on which, I leave to the world. About fifty minutes after eleven, the firing ceased; and, upon the smoke clearing away, I found Le Brave, bearing a commodore's pendant, the Alexander, and Le Jupitre in our possession.

"When I contemplate on the result of this action, when five sail of the line had surrendered, or were apparently destroyed in less than two hours, I cannot, though bound to pay every tribute to the noble and gallant efforts of the Honourable Rear-Admiral Cochrane, Rear-Admiral Louis, the captains, officers and seamen, and royal marines, under my command, be vain enough to suppose that without the aiding hand of Providence such result could have been effected, and with a loss so comparatively small; and though I shall ever sympathize with the connections of those that fell, the reflection on the cause will, I hope, afford much consolation.

"To speak individually to the conduct of any one would be injurious to all, for all were equally animated with the same zealous ardour in support of their King and country. Yet, possessed of those feelings, I cannot be silent, without injustice to the firm and manly support for which I was indebted to Captain Keats, and the effect that the system and discipline and good order in which I found the Superb, must ever produce; and the pre-eminence of the British seamen could never be more highly conspicuous than in this contest.

"After the action, the water being too deep to anchor in the Bay of St. Domingo, it was requisite to bring to with the prizes, to repair the damages, put the ships in a manageable state, and shift the prisoners, which took me till this afternoon, when I detached the Honourable Captain Stopford in the Spencer, with the Donegal and Atlas, which latter had lost her bowsprit, with the prizes to Jamaica; and being anxious, with Rear-Admiral Cochrane,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 254.

that he should return to his command, where his services must be wanted, a jury mainmast is fitting to the Northumberland, under this island, to enable her to get to windward, when I shall order the Agamemnon, which is staying by her, to accompany the Rear-Admiral to his station; and I am now proceeding, with the Canopus, Rear-Admiral Louis, Acasta, and Magicienne, off St. Domingo, to make certain of the Imperial and Diomede being completely wrecked, after which I shall repair to Jamaica.

"Having recited the transactions of this glorious combat, which will fairly add another sprig of laurel to our naval history, and assist in promoting our country's good,

"I am Sir, &c.

"J. T. Duckworth."[1]

"Sir, Superb, off St. Domingo, February 7th, 1806.

"For the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, I send you herewith a list of the killed and wounded in the squadron under my command, during the action of yesterday; but as it was hastily collected, should I find any errors they shall be amended by a subsequent opportunity. You will also have the French captains' statement of their loss in the captured ships, and I can venture to say, the French admiral's will not be in a less proportion; and the striking of the Diomede implies she did not escape the irresistible fire of his Majesty's ships. A copy of my public thanks given to the admirals, captains, &c. for having so gallantly performed their duty in this truly decisive action, I request you will lay before their lordships.

"I am, Sir, &c.

"J. T. Duckworth."

"To W. Marsden, Esq. &c. Admiralty.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 254.

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[1] *British Line.*

Weather Division.	Guns.	Lee Division.	Guns.
Superb	74	Canopus	84
Northumberland	74	Donegal	74
Spencer	74	Atlas	74
Agamemnon	64		

Frigates — Acasta, Magicienne, Kingfisher, Epervier.

French Line.

L'Alexandre, of 84 guns, Capitaine le Garreau; 300 killed and wounded; taken.

L'Imperial, of 120 guns, Contre-Amiral le Siegle, Capitaine le Pigot; number of killed and wounded not known, but certainly many; on shore and completely wrecked.

Le Diomede, of 84 guns, Capitaine le Henry; number of killed and wounded not known, but certainly many; on shore and completely wrecked.

Le Jupitre, of 74 guns, Capitaine le Laignel; 200 killed and wounded; taken.

Le Brave, of 74 guns, Capitaine le Conde; 260 killed and wounded; taken.

Frigates — La Felicite and La Comete; escaped.

Corvette — La Diligence; escaped.

Admiral Duckworth's Letter of Thanks to the Officers and Men.

"Superb, off St. Domingo, February 7th, 1806.

"As it is impossible for language to convey an adequate sense of my feelings to the Honourable Rear-Admiral Cochrane, for the noble support rendered me by the Northumberland, to Rear-Admiral Louis, and the captains of the squadron under my command, for the bravery and judgment displayed in the service of their King and country, by effecting a complete victory in as short a period as our naval annals can produce, I therefore can only, with a heart impressed by the highest sense of admiration and approbation, beg to offer the Honourable Rear-Admiral Cochrane, Rear-Admiral Louis, the captains, officers, and seamen, and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the royal marines, my warmest thanks; and I desire that the captains will convey those my sentiments of admiration and approbation, with thanks, in the most gratifying manner, to the officers, seamen, and royal marines, as a proof of my high sense of their services in the battle of yesterday.

"T. J. Duckworth."

"To the Hon. Rear-Admiral Cochrane,
Rear-Admiral Louis, the Captains,
Officers, Seamen, and Royal Marines."

"Superb, to leeward of the town of St. Domingo,
February 8th, 1806.

"Sir,

"Having, in a letter of about two hours since acquainted you of my intention to fire the Imperial and Diomede, I have the satisfaction now to say, that Captain Dunn, who I had employed on that service, has rescued all the prisoners from perishing through a tremendous sea, and completed the whole of the service highly to my satisfaction, and his own honour, which I am to desire you will state to the lords commissioners of the admiralty; and

"I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
"J. T. Duckworth."

"To W. Marsden, Esq. &c. Admiralty."

Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, K. B., to William Marsden, Esq., correcting his former one.

"Sir,

"Superb, Port Royal, Jamaica, February 16th, 1806.

"Captain Henry, of the French ship Diomede, which ran on shore, and which I afterwards ordered to be burnt, being, with his officers, among the prisoners rescued; the afternoon of the 9th, before that event took place, he approached to offer Captain Keats his sword, which he, from the report which had been made to me by Sir Edward Barry, and, except in the act of hailing, confirmed

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. pp. 259. 345.

by Captain Dunn, that the ship had struck before she run on shore, disdainfully refused. This, of course, made explanation necessary on my side; and I acquainted Captain Henry, that I had marked his dishonourable conduct in my public letter; when feeling, as he appeared to do, like a man of honour, and referring to his officers and ship's company, they gave the strongest testimony that the pendant was always flying, though the ensign was shot away, and this, from strict investigation since my arrival here, appears to be the case; and as Sir Edward Barry is not present to refer to, and the commodore in the Brave allows he hailed the Agamemnon, and what has been recited passed between them, I have no doubt that the Diomede had been mistaken for the Brave, by the ensign being down; I therefore, Sir, feeling that character is much more valuable than life, am to beg the heavy charge on Captain Henry may be done away in such a manner as to their lordships' judgment may appear most proper.

"I am, &c.

"J. T. DUCKWORTH."

In this letter Captain Henry, of the Diomede, is acquitted of the offence with which, in the official letter, Sir John Duckworth had charged him; but Sir John, when he acknowledges that the Diomede had not struck to Sir Edward Barry, omits saying unto whom that ship and L'Imperial surrendered. This fact the author is able to supply. Both ships were aground and dismasted—L'Imperial a few hundred yards to leeward of the Diomede, both under the cliffs; the Diomede lying upon her starboard beam ends, heeling in shore, the Imperial heeling off shore. Captain W. C. Fahie (now Sir W. C. Fahie, K.C.B.) in his Majesty's ship Amelia, with the frigates under his command, was sent by Admiral Duckworth, the morning after the action, to destroy these ships. Captain Fahie found them lying as above stated, with their colours flying, and upon closing with them, the English frigates fired their broadsides, and then the French ships struck. One gun was fired either from L'Imperial, or from the cliffs immediately over her. Boats were then sent to remove the prisoners; but few remained on board. Their own boats, and the vessels sent from St. Domingo to take them out, had not time to remove them all before the English frigates got up. When the prisoners were out, the prizes were burnt. As there was no merit attached to destroying disabled ships, Captain Fahie claimed none; but his modesty upon this occasion lost his squadron their legal share of prize-money; for had a claim been made, the fact of firing, and of the French striking their colours, could have been proved by hundreds. The author was sent by Captain Fahie on board the Diomede, and was there when Captain Dunn came on board.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 345.

Upon some paper, which then came out of her, part of this history was written. L'Imperial was a magnificent ship, the finest man of war taken from the French during the war; her cabin was superbly fitted, the mouldings on the beams were gilded; but her conquerors, instead of hoisting the imperial flag below the union on board her at Spithead, had only the diminished satisfaction of seeing her burning upon the shores of St. Domingo.[1]

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 345.

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[1] *French Account of the Action off St. Domingo.*

Dispatch from Captain Cocault, commandant of his Majesty's corvette La Diligente, dated Port Louis Road, March 26th.

"Sir,

"Scarcely at anchor in this road, it is with regret that I seize the occasion to give you an account of the misfortunes which the vessels under Vice-Admiral Lesseigues have sustained, and of which the corvette I have the honour to command formed a part.

"We left Brest on the 13th of December, the wind blowing pretty fresh from the N.E., to the number of fifteen ships of the line, six frigates, and four corvettes.

"On the 24th, we separated in several squadrons, and I was ordered to put myself under the command of Vice Admiral Lesseigues

"On the 25th, the winds continuing N.N.E., we made sail to the westward, when we discovered a convoy of upwards of thirty sail to the windward. The commandant made the signal to haul our wind and give chace, but after a pursuit of eight hours, despairing of being able to come up with them, in consequence of their position, and the great distance they kept, he collected the squadron, and continued his voyage.

"On the 4th Nivose, lat. 44°, long. 24° from the meridian of Paris, we experienced a dreadful storm, the wind north. All the vessels suffered much; the Jupiter lost her main-top-mast, and the Diomede made a great deal of water.

"The Alexandre and Le Brave separated from us on the 5th, when Vice-Admiral Lesseigues' division was reduced to three ships of the line, two frigates, and a corvette.

"We discovered the Azores on the 2d of January, and on the 19th we were in sight of St. Domingo.

"On the 20th, in the morning, I had orders to take the lead of the division, for the purpose of mooring in the road of St. Domingo, but the calms I met with were the cause of all the vessels arriving and coming to their moorings at the same time, viz. at two in the afternoon.

"The admiral immediately gave orders for the disembarkation of the troops, to the number of sixteen or eighteen hundred men, with ammunition and other necessaries for the colony. This was completed on the 21st, and on disembarking we were convinced of the satisfaction the colony would feel upon receiving this reinforcement; the colony, however, was in a very good condition, and enjoyed perfect tranquillity.

"On the following day the vessels were employed in taking in water, and repairing the damages occasioned by the bad weather. On the 29th, the Alexandre joined the vessels in the road, and on the same day I was ordered out upon observation to windward, and, favoured by the breezes from shore, was upon the point of fixing my cruize off the Isles of Saona.

"On the 5th of February, conformably to my instructions, I shaped my course for St. Domingo; and being off the road, at six in the morning, I discovered several sail to the E.N.E., which I immediately knew to be an enemy's squadron. I then distinguished in this squadron nine ships of the line, and several frigates, and immediately made the signal for an enemy of superior force to our squadron. At half past six, the admiral answered my signals; and in nearing his moorings, I perceived on board his vessel the signal for slipping his cables. At seven o'clock, the four ships of the line, and the two frigates, were under sail, with a very light wind; while the enemy's nine ships of the line and frigates were favoured by the shifting of the breeze from the north to the eastward.

"At a quarter before nine o'clock, the commandant made a signal for forming the line, and at the same time to carry all sail, and prepare for action. The enemy, however, continued to gain upon us considerably.

"At ten o'clock the headmost ship of the enemy's line was engaged with the

Captain Waller's Report to Admiral Dacres.

"His Majesty's sloop Serpent, Port Royal Harbour,
Jamaica, March 6, 1806.

"Sir,

"I have the honour to inform you, that on the 28th November last, being off the island of Bonacca, at five P. M., two sail appeared in the N. E. quarter. As they were far to windward, and night approaching, I judged, by commencing a chase at that time, there was but little prospect of keeping sight of them after close of day, I therefore continued with the ship in the same situation as when first seen, till dusk, and then bore up, made all sail for Truxillo Bay, the entrance of which we reached before eleven o'clock the same night. I was induced to believe, by the direction they were steering, added to other circumstances, this was their destination. At two in the morning of the 29th, these vessels were

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 438.

Alexandre, and in a quarter of an hour afterwards the fight was general. The quickness of the firing, and the thick smoke which concealed the vessels, prevented us from distinguishing any object. Being to windward of our squadron, and at no great distance from the shore, I received a part of the enemy's fire, which was directed against our headmost ships; and at last, to avoid going on shore, I found myself obliged to crowd sail, and go before the wind. The frigates, La Comete and La Felicité, practised the same manœuvre.

"At half past eleven o'clock, the smoke having in some measure dispersed, I discovered one of our ships dismasted, and on fire, and surrounded by several of the English vessels; the rest, notwithstanding their inferiority, maintained the contest with great fury; but at half past one, overpowered by the enemy's superior numbers, they had run aground. Our frigates, which had previously approached the scene of action, now found it convenient to haul their wind, and I thought it proper to follow their example; but fearing that our retreat should be cut off, we stood out to sea. However, we had in the mean while approached near enough to observe the state of both squadrons. Three of our ships seemed to be grounded near the batteries; the whole were dismasted, and in the enemy's possession. Two English ships lay near our own that were ashore, as bare as sheer hulks; all their masts and rigging shot away; they had fired signals of distress, and the frigates seemed busy in saving the crews: two other English ships dismasted at the same time, were in the offing, and in a distressed situation; and the rest of the enemy's squadron seemed to have suffered considerably.

"The French ships that were aground had their colours flying, and seemed to us to have hoisted out their boats for the purpose of putting their people on shore. Our ships had displayed a singular share of courage and resolution. The behaviour of the crews left us no doubt, that with an equal force, the enemy would have been crushed. If the squadron had been able to get to windward, and clear the coast, I am persuaded it would have had the advantage of the enemy, and been able to escape. Until this unhappy affair, our cruize had all the success desired: our misfortunes arose from remaining too long in the road. Our corvette, being chased by the enemy's frigate, was obliged to bear away. After having passed to the west of the island of St. Domingo, we entered the English channel on the 24th February. In the night between the 9th and 10th of March, lat. 38°, long. 46°, we met with a violent gale from the S. W., and I lost sight of the frigates La Comete and La Felicité, with whom I kept company after leaving St. Domingo; not being able to hear any thing of them after the late gale, I neglected no means for hastening my return to France. On the 25th of March, at daybreak, I discovered the isles de Glenan; and on the 26th I moored in the road of Port Louis, from whence I have the honour to transmit these unpleasant details. I have the honour to offer your excellency the assurance of my respect.

"Cocault."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 386.

seen rounding the east point from Truxillo Bay, but hauling so close to the land, that they were scarcely to be discerned. Experiencing a strong current, at the same time setting the ship out, and the wind also in that direction, which they avoided in shore, I found, under these great disadvantages, there was no probability of acting against them with effect without the boats, so they were instantly dispatched, under the orders of Mr. William Patfull the second lieutenant, and Mr. Charles Trace, master's mate, in the launch, and the cutter, with Mr. Samuel Nisbett, midshipman, and Mr. Thomas Scriven the purser, all of whom came forward in a very handsome manner, offering their services, as well as every man employed on this occasion. We had made them out before night, one to be a felucca, the other felucca-rigged forward, but having a schooner sail aft, which convinced me they were enemy's armed vessels; I therefore directed the boats to act together, and attempt the largest first. On approaching her, they received a heavy discharge from great guns and small arms; but their exertions soon caused them to board, and carry their object: which proves to be a schooner-built vessel and guarda costa, called the St. Christo Vil Pano, bearing the colours and belonging to his Catholic Majesty, from the Havannah, mounting one long traversing eighteen-pounder, two four-pounders, four brass three-pounders, small arms, &c., and forty men, commanded by Don Juan Christoval Tierro, who, and twenty-five others, escaped by jumping overboard and swimming on shore. Lieutenant Patfull, with the launch alone, lost no time in pursuing the other, but am sorry to say, she eluded his vigilance under cover of the night, by lowering her sails, then sweeping round the opposite side of the bay close to Luke's Keys, and at daylight was nearly under the fort Truxillo. A Spanish felucca privateer, mounting one four-pounder and forty men; she had accidentally joined the captured vessel off Cape Antonio five days before. I feel much pleasure in saying, this service was performed without the loss of a man; and great credit is due to Lieutenant Patfull, not only for his judgment in laying the boats on board, and the gallant manner he led them on, but for his active exertion respecting the pursuit. The other officers and men employed under his orders highly merit my warmest acknowledgements, all of whom I take the liberty of recommending to your notice.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"J. WALLER."

Letters from Captain Ross to Admiral Dacres.

"His Majesty's ship Pique, off Ocoa Bay,
17th March, 1806.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to inform you, that Lieutenant Ward, of his Majesty's ship under my command, in the gig, assisted by

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 78.

Mr. Eveleigh (mid.) in the yawl, most gallantly boarded, and succeeded in capturing, after a very smart resistance, (and without loss on our side,) the Spanish armed schooner Santa Clara, of one nine-pounder and twenty-eight men, completely equipped for war.

"I have the honour, &c.,
"C. B. H. Ross."

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Pique, off St. Catherine's, 27th March, 1806.

"I have the honour to inform you, that yesterday crossing over from St. Domingo to Curaçoa, I fell in with two men of war brigs standing in for the land. At one P. M., being within long range, I commenced firing to prevent their getting in with the shore, and from superior sailing closed with them at two, when a most destructive fire continued for about twenty minutes; but a flaw of wind favouring us, the helm was put down, which placed us immediately across the hawse of the commodore. She was directly boarded by Lieutenants Ward and Baker, and Mr. Thompson the master, and every inch of her decks most obstinately defended. The slaughter on both sides was dreadful; and it is with real concern I state the loss of Mr. John Thompson the master, who was killed, with eight seamen; and Lieutenants Ward and Baker, with twelve seamen and marines wounded. The contest was very severe; but in about five minutes, the colours were hauled down; the other struck after a few broadsides more, and we took possession of the Phaeton and Voltigeur, of sixteen guns and 120 men each, French brigs of war, beautiful vessels, and only nine months old. It was impossible for two vessels to be more obstinately defended, every thing being cut to pieces, and nearly one-half of their crews killed or wounded. I understand they had been roughly handled by an English man of war brig (Reindeer) the day before.

"I beg leave to recommend to your notice my first lieutenant Ward, whose good conduct at all times has merited the highest approbation. He is, I am afraid, dangerously wounded.

"The death of Mr. Thompson I most sincerely lament: in him his country has lost a brave and most excellent officer. He is the same so handsomely spoken of by Captain Bissett in the Racoon. He has left a wife to lament his loss, and almost a stranger in this country. The wound of Lieutenant Baker, I rejoice to say, will only lay him by for a short time.

The assistance I received from Lieutenant Craig, of the royal marines (who is also wounded), and his party, deserve the highest praise for the steady and well-directed fire kept up by them, and their soldier-like behaviour at all times.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 78.

We had only one man wounded on board, all the others were killed and wounded on the brigs decks. The ship's company behaved uncommonly well, and I trust the conduct of all will merit your approbation.

"I have the honour to be,
"CHARLES B. H. ROSS."

"Total, nine killed and fourteen wounded on board the Pique."

Miranda's Expedition.

Upon the 27th of March, General Miranda and his followers sailed from Jacquemel in St. Domingo. His naval force consisted of the Leander, an American armed ship, commanded by Captain Lewis, the Bee and Bacchus schooners, and two hundred men. "It was the general's intention to anchor at Bonair;" but after being ten days at sea, they found themselves seventy miles to leeward of the island.

Upon the 11th of April they anchored at Aruba, where the men were landed, and exercised by Colonel Kirkland; the 15th they sailed again, in company with an English schooner of six guns, commanded by Captain Phillips, and with a pilot; but the expedition got slowly to windward; the general quarrelled with Captain Lewis, and the Bee sprung her main-mast.

Upon the 24th the English schooner quitted the adventurers. Captain Phillips had only consented to accompany them upon condition that they should land in eight days after leaving Aruba

To encourage the sailors to land, Miranda on the 25th issued a proclamation, offering every man thirty dollars per month, and promising a bounty of fifty more per month at the close of the campaign to every one who distinguished himself; all but seventeen entered, and made Miranda's force one hundred and eighty-three.

Upon the 27th, a brig and schooner were in sight, notwithstanding which preparations were made for landing at night, near Porto Cabello, but the pilot mistook the spot, and the schooners were sent in to reconoitre. The next morning the Spanish vessels, avoiding the Leander, captured the two schooners, and between thirty and forty men. Unable to save them, and unable to do without them, Miranda stood for Bonair, took in a few necessaries, and then made sail for Grenada, where they arrived upon the 29th of May, and sailed again next day, under convoy of his Majesty's sloop Lily, Captain Campbell, for Barbadoes.

They arrived at Barbadoes upon the 6th of June, where the ship was libelled at the custom-house, as a smuggler; Miranda's interest however got her released, and he also entered into the following contract with Admiral Cochrane.

Biggs' Miranda's Expedition, 1809, pp. 50. 56.

"Northumberland, Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes,
the 9th of June, 1806.

"Sir,

"Whereas you have represented to me, that in carrying into effect the expedition under your command you have met with some difficulty, from the defection of the force you expected to join at St. Domingo; and conceiving it may be mutually advantageous to Great Britain, and the provinces of South America, which you are about to attempt to liberate from the dominion of Spain; and having received your statement of the various plans that from time to time have been in agitation between you and the British ministry, in all of which the same object has been kept in view, but, from particular circumstances, incident to the moment, they have not yet been carried into effect; in consideration thereof, and judging that I may thereby promote what seems to have commanded the attention of the British government, I agree to support your landing in any part of America, between Trinidad and the coast opposite to the island of Aruba, with such a naval force as I can afford, which will be at least a sloop of war and two brigs, and probably a frigate, if one can be spared from the attention I must necessarily give to the convoys, and protection of the colonies within the district of my command. I do moreover assure you of such further support as it may be in my power occasionally to give; and should a Spanish naval force arrive in those seas, I will use my best endeavours to prevent them doing you any injury.

"At the same time I am free to confess, that while I grant you such essential support, and the permission you have received to recruit your force here as well as at Trinidad, I do expect, that in the event of your being successful, and any of the provinces on the Main become independent of Spain, that you engage in their name to grant to Great Britain positively, and to no other power, (the United States of America excepted, if you should so incline,) the same privileges of trade as the inhabitants of the said provinces; that is to say, that the vessels belonging or subject to any other power or state, who are not now giving aid to this expedition, shall not enjoy the same immunities with Great Britain, and that they shall be subject to an additional duty of ten per cent. on all goods they either import or export over and above that to be paid by Great Britain; and that none of the coalesced powers acting against Great Britain, or that hereafter become so during the present war, shall be permitted to enter or trade with any of the ports of the said provinces. That this agreement shall subsist and be in force until a treaty of commerce shall be concluded between Great Britain and the provinces so liberated from the Spanish government, for which purpose commissioners shall be nominated by each party, within twelve months after the definitive

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Antepara's South American Emancipation, 1810, p. 213.

treaty of peace between Great Britain and the powers now at war with her shall be signed.

"It is further agreed, that British subjects shall in every instance be assisted by the government of the said provinces, in the recovery of their legal and just debts; and that in security thereof they may hold lands, houses, or estates, under the same privileges with the natives of the said provinces; and that they shall be suffered to sell and dispose of the said property, both real and personal, in like manner with them; and that in so doing they shall not be subject to any tax, duty, or imposition whatever. It is also to be understood, that consuls or vice-consuls may be appointed to such provinces, cities, towns, &c., &c., as the British government may think proper, enjoying every privilege or immunity now granted to consuls belonging to Great Britain by the most favoured nations of Europe.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

"To General Miranda, &c." "A. COCHRANE."

"SIR, "Barbadoes, 9th June, 1806.

"Having deliberately perused the foregoing proposals, I hereby bind and oblige myself, as far as my authority can extend, to see the same carried into execution; and that, to all intents and purposes, the same shall be ratified and made binding on those provinces that may become independent of Spain.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

"To Rear-Admiral the Hon.
A. Cochrane, &c. &c." "F. de MIRANDA."

Captain Lewis now quitted the ship. June 20th, she sailed for Trinidad, in company with his Majesty's sloops Lily and Express, and arrived there upon the 24th. Here, in consequence of the assistance given by the British navy, Miranda was able to recruit his forces by volunteers; he also circulated the following address to the Spanish people.

Miranda's Address to the Spanish people at Trinidad.

"FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

"The glorious opportunity now presents itself, of relieving from oppression and arbitrary government a people who are worthy of a better fate, who ought to enjoy the blessings of the finest country in the universe, which bountiful Providence has given them, but

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Biggs' Miranda's Expedition, 1809, p. 111.

who are shackled by a despotism too cruel for human nature longer to endure. Groaning under their present afflictions, they hail with extended arms the noble cause of freedom and independence, and call upon you to share with them in the god-like action of relieving your distressed fellow creatures. Hasten, then, to join the standard of one, who has the happiness to call himself your countryman, and is determined to rescue his country, and to shed the last drop of his blood in promoting its happiness, an object of which he has never lost sight for a moment of his life. There will be a liberal distribution of land at the expiration of a twelvemonth, according to rank; and privates from the instant of enrolment will be entitled to provisions and clothing, with a quarter dollar per day, as pay, not subject to any deductions. And you, brave volunteers of the island, who have nobly come forward to partake with us our honours, and to share with us our prosperity, hasten to follow those officers, under whose care you have been already trained, and who are impatient to lead you on to victory and wealth.

"The gulf that Columbus first discovered and honoured with his presence will now witness the illustrious actions of your gallant efforts."

Miranda disowned this address, but it was probably issued with his sanction.

July 25th, the expedition sailed from Trinidad. The squadron consisted of the Leander, of sixteen guns; his Majesty's sloop Lily, twenty four guns; Express, twelve guns; Attentive, fourteen guns; Provost, ten guns; Bull Dog, Dispatch, and Mastiff, gun-boats of two or three guns; Trimmer and Commodore Barry, unarmed merchant vessels. Miranda and his suite sailed in the Lily. In passing Margarita they were fired at, — anchored one night at Coche, and on the 2d of August anchored nine miles off "La Vela de Coro," on the west side of the bay, instead of within reach of the batteries, as was intended.

Pursuant to a general order, the first division under the command of Colonel Count de Rouvray disembarked from the squadron in the boats, with a view to effect an immediate landing; but a strong gale prevented the gun-boats from towing them up. The principal part of the second division, under Lieutenant-Colonel Kirkland, were removed from the Leander to his Majesty's ship Bacchante, Captain Dacres, which ship, during the night, beat up nearly abreast the strongest fort of La Vela de Coro.

On the morning of the 3d, the first division landed, and the second was covered by a warm fire from the ships against the forts. As they approached the land, the Spaniards began an ill-directed fire of musketry from the bushes, but retreated as soon as their opponents landed.

Biggs' Miranda's Expedition, 1809, pp. 117, 119.

The nearest fort was stormed by the hulans and marines, the Spaniards leaping the walls, and flying in all directions; the guns of the fort were immediately turned against the town, about a quarter of a mile off, where the main body of the Spanish force, with ten pieces of artillery (fours and sixes), were stationed. They soon fled in confusion, leaving some of their guns unspiked and even loaded. So far the assailants had only three wounded. The inhabitants were gone; they fled the day before, with their moveables. Flags of truce, with assurances of protection, and soliciting them to return, produced but little effect. His Majesty's ships Lily and the Leander had anchored nine miles to leeward of the town, and were thus prevented from sharing in the attack. General Miranda landed at half past eleven; and between nine and ten at night the whole force began their march for the town of Coro; they took twenty-five Indians, armed with bows and arrows, upon the march, and arrived there an hour before daylight on the 4th.

The city was evacuated by all except a few women. When General Miranda, with his officers and first division, entered the public square, he advanced to the avenue leading to the jail and council-house; the second division at the same time formed on the opposite side, in front of the church. Some muskets were discharged near the jail. The hulans and marines, who were in advance near the prison, fired not only at the prison, but on the troops who were before the church; these took the firing for the commencement of the enemy's attack, and returned it without waiting for orders. A scene of confusion ensued: one man was killed; Colonel Kirkland, and the general's secretary and five men, wounded, before order was restored. The Indian auxiliaries (for their prisoners pretended to join them) fled precipitately, leaving their arms behind them. Miranda released the debtors from confinement, and remained five days in Coro; but being unable to induce the inhabitants to return to their houses, on the night of the 9th he returned to La Vela de Coro. When he entered Coro, his whole force was only 264 men. The number of Spanish forces at Vela de Coro at the time of attack was estimated at 500, and fifteen pieces of ordnance were on the batteries.

When Miranda marched for Coro, he left Colonel Hall with twenty-five men at La Vela. This officer failed in his attempts to induce the inhabitants to return, neither could he persuade the priest to come and celebrate mass.

Lieutenant Spearing and Doctor Davie, of the British navy, called upon the curate, but were equally unsuccessful. He would have nothing to do with Miranda's followers; and his flock, following his example, kept aloof also. A watering party, under Captain Johnson, of the Leander, with fifteen men, were taken prisoners.

Biggs' Miranda's Expedition, 1809, p. 138.

A party, under Lieutenant Barclay, of his Majesty's sloop Lily, sent to his assistance, were too late to be of any other service than disabling about twenty of the Spaniards.

On the 13th of August the adventurers embarked during the night, and quitted the Main. They proceeded to Aruba, of which island Miranda took possession, and issued the following proclamation.

Miranda's Proclamation.

" Aruba, August 22d, 1806.

" Inhabitants of Aruba, circumstances force us to take possession of your island, but rest assured that your religion and commerce shall remain unmolested; and the execution of your laws shall continue in the hands of your present magistrates, conscious that from a virtuous people like you nothing is to be apprehended. Our object is to emancipate a people who have long suffered under the rod of tyranny, and who have invited us to give them a more equitable government. The governor of the Caraccas has offered a reward of 30,000 dollars for the head of a citizen, whose life has been, from its earliest period, devoted to the good of his countrymen, and who will shed the last drop of his blood in endeavouring to effect in South America what Washington has done in the United States,— what Dion and Pelopides did in Greece,— and the Prince of Orange in Holland! Ask the wretch, by what laws, human or divine, he is authorized to destroy me, except that he wishes to renew in these days, among the South Americans, the cruelties and infamies of the government of Philip II. in Holland, which have disgraced his name for ever, and blasted the character of the nation that permitted them.

(Signed) " MIRANDA.
(Signed) " THOMAS MOLINI, Sec. and Reg."

Antepara, p. 180, gives the 19th of August as the date of this proclamation.

Here courts-martial and duelling, the usual attendants upon idleness, ensued.

The answer from the commanding officers at Jamaica to Miranda's application for assistance arrived on the 13th of September. It was brought by his Majesty's sloop Ferret, and contained nothing but good wishes.

Miranda now tried to get possession of Curaçoa by negociation, but his efforts were treated with contempt; and upon the morning of the 27th of September he quitted Aruba, under convoy of Captain Atkins, of his Majesty's ship Seine, and arrived at Grenada upon the 21st of October, from whence Miranda proceeded in the

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Biggs' Miranda's Expedition, 1809, pp. 138. 156.

Seine to Barbadoes. He arrived at Bridgetown upon the 2d of November. His followers proceeded to Trinidad, where Miranda joined them again upon the 9th. Here, at the request of General Hislop the governor, the adventurers laid aside every military badge, and dispersed. The commerce of that island with the Main had been materially injured by Miranda's attempt.

Upon the 3d of April, Governor Hislop issued a proclamation in Trinidad, in which, after declaring that the inhabitants of that colony had suffered great difficulties and inconveniences from "the prolixity of proceedings" as they were "carried on according to Spanish form," he orders that the chief judge shall determine all civil and criminal matters, in the same manner as he did immediately after the capitulation of the island. The court was to sit every day in the week, Sunday, Saturday, and holydays excepted; and Wednesday and Friday were to be the "weekly court days."

Upon the 10th of June a resolution passed the house of commons, by a majority of ninety-five to fifteen, "by which parliament declared the slave trade to be founded on principles contrary to justice, humanity, and sound policy, and engaged to institute measures for the total abolition of the same."[1] The lords concurred with the vote, by a majority of forty-one to twenty; and the same day an address to the King was moved and carried, praying his Majesty to negociate with foreign powers for their co-operation in a total abolition of the trade to Africa for slaves.

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[1] Sir W. Young's Common-place Book, p. 13. Political Account of Trinidad.

Abstract of the Act of Parliament for abolishing the Slave Trade.

Statute 46 George 3d, Chap. 52, passed May 23d, 1806, entitled "An act to prevent the importation of slaves by any of his Majesty's subjects, into any islands, colonies, plantations, or territories belonging to any foreign sovereign, state, or power," &c.

Section 1. prohibits the slave trade from his Majesty's dominions, to any place whatever under the dominion of any foreign state, under penalty of forfeiture of ship and cargo.

Section 2. prohibits British subjects, or persons residing in his Majesty's dominions, from trading in slaves, from any country whatever, to foreign parts, under the same penalty.

Sections 3. and 4. prohibit the importing of slaves into any of the colonies surrendered to his Majesty during the present war, and also the exporting from, or taking on board any ship or vessel, at any place, either in his Majesty's dominions, or in Africa, or elsewhere, any slaves with intent to carry the same to any of the said colonies, under the penalty of forfeiting all such slaves, with the ships in which they shall be carried, and their boats, furniture, &c.

Section 5. imposes a further penalty of £50 sterling for every slave carried contrary to this act, except it shall be clearly proved that the act arose entirely from stress of weather, or other inevitable accident, the burthen of which proof to lie in all cases upon the defendant.

The act not to extend to prevent the transportation of slaves, convicted by due course of law in any British colony, of any crime to which that punishment is annexed; but a certified copy of the sentence on each offender must be on board.

Section 6. declares it to be unlawful for any British subject, or person residing in his Majesty's dominions, to invest their money, or employ their ships or goods, or to lend money, or become security for loans of money, &c. to be employed in any foreign slave trade, under penalty of forfeiting double the value of the property so employed.

The legislature of Grenada passed an act to prevent the too frequent and indiscriminate manumission of slaves; repealing all the clauses, and parts of clauses, of the act of 1797, which related to the annuity, and retaining the tax of £100, without any allowance what-

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Smith's Acts of Grenada, pp. 320, 321, from Reasons for Registry of Slaves, p. 47.

Section 7. prohibits all insurances on vessels employed in any foreign slave trade, under a penalty of 500 pounds for every offence, and the insurance to be void.

Section 8. prohibits the employment of British ships or boats in Africa, or in any part of the coast thereof, from supplying foreign vessels or factories, under the penalty of forfeiting the vessel, and the master to forfeit 100 pounds.

Section 9. prohibits the fitting out any foreign slave ships, in any part of his Majesty's dominions, and also prohibits his Majesty's subjects, and persons resident in his dominions, from putting on board any merchandize, with the intent that the same shall be carried to Africa, to be there employed in the slave trade.

The penalties are forfeiture of ship and cargo, and any of his Majesty's subjects assisting in any such offence to forfeit 100 pounds.

All ships to be deemed foreign which shall not be registered and cleared out in such a manner as to entitle her to import slaves into a British colony, according to the act for better regulating the manner of carrying slaves in British vessels from the coast of Africa.

The 10th, 11th, & 12th sections contain regulations to prevent the carrying on an illicit slave trade to the foreign colonies, in vessels ostensibly destined for the supply of our own colonies, or elsewhere.

Section 13. regulates the mode of carrying slaves from one British colony to another. A licence under the hand and seal of the governor, or chief officer of the customs, is to be obtained, authorizing the exportation, and specifying the place of destination. Bond is to be given by the exporter in a penalty of fifty pounds sterling for every slave, with conditions faithfully to deliver them at the specified place, and to produce a certificate that the slaves have been landed (inevitable impediments to be proved by two witnesses on oath). The penalty of not leaving the slaves according to the bond, is forfeiture £50 for each slave, in addition to all other forfeitures.

Proviso: the bonds to be void, if not prosecuted within three years.

Proviso: the act not to extend to prevent any slave from being employed upon the seas.

Proviso: the act not to prevent any domestic servant from following his master, or any part of his family, to any place whatever.

But in all these cases of slaves employed at sea, or domestic slaves embarked on a voyage, the names and occupations of every such slave (except domestic slaves attending on the person of any passenger on board, not exceeding two slaves for each passenger,) shall be inserted in the clearance of such vessel by the chief officer of the customs of the port from which the vessel clears, who shall certify under his hand what the slaves are reported to him to be.

All attempts to violate or elude these prohibitions to be punished by a penalty of 50*l.* sterling for every slave improperly embarked.

Proviso: the act not to extend to prevent any of his Majesty's vessels from carrying slaves to be employed in his Majesty's service.

Section 14. allows governors pro tempore to exercise the functions of governor.

Section 15. Conquered colonies, if reconquered, to be deemed foreign.

Section 16. Persons taking false oaths under this act subject to the pains and penalties of perjury.

Section 17. regulates the recovery and application of forfeitures and penalties under this act.

They may be sued for and recovered in any court of record in any part of his Majesty's dominions, and are subject to the same rules as other forfeitures are by statute 4 Geo. III. chap. 15.

Section 18. declares, that any officer of the customs or excise, or of any of his Majesty's vessels of war, may seize and prosecute for any offence against this act, and have the benefit of the act of the 4th of his Majesty for their protection.

Section 19. Persons sued for any thing done under this act may plead the general issue, and give the act in evidence, &c.; and if judgment is given for the defendant, he shall recover treble costs, &c.

African Institution, 4 *Report*, *Appendix*, pp. 32. 35, 36. 38, 39. 42, 43, 44.

ever. The tax was not imposed on the manumission of "diseased, blind, aged, or disabled slaves," only, but of any slaves whatever.

The preamble to an act of Bermuda, passed this year, demonstrates the spirit of its framers. "Whereas the rapid increase of the number of free negroes and free persons of colour is a great and growing evil to this community, and to prevent the same it is deemed expedient to regulate the emancipation of slaves." It then proceeds to enact, that no slave-owner shall emancipate a slave of forty years of age or under, except upon condition of such slaves leaving the Bermuda islands within three months of the date of the emancipation. Should they return, they are to be taken up, transported by public authority, and sold into slavery again. As to those who are above forty years old, a tax of fifty pounds is imposed; and they may stay if they will.

The pretexts of other colonial legislators should lead to restraints on the enfranchisement of the old, rather than the young; whereas here we have that preference inverted, and the true reason given in the preamble to the act.

The Bahamas were afflicted in a manner never known before by the oldest inhabitants; first by a great drought, and afterwards by four dreadful gales of wind. At Eleuthera, on the 30th August, a gale began about eight in the evening, and lasted till day-light the next morning; it entirely destroyed every thing which the inhabitants had in their fields. September 13th, a more dreadful gale threw down the houses, tore up trees by the roots, "leaving almost every thing in a state of destruction." On the 27th and on the 5th of October they had two more gales. The inhabitants petitioned government for relief, and the merchants of New Providence for credit; from the merchants they received a supply by way of charity, which was their only support for four weeks.

In May, the author, with a party, visited Peter's Island, one of those which form the bay of Tortola, a kind of Robinson Crusoe spot, where a man ought to be farmer, carpenter, doctor, fisherman, planter; every thing himself. The owner's house has only the ground floor; a roof of shingles projects some six or eight feet beyond the sides, like a quaker's hat; not a pane of glass in the house; merely shutters for the apertures. In the centre of the drawing room or hall, or best room, were triced up ears of Indian corn; on a chair lay a fishing net; in one corner hung another; a spy glass, fowling piece, chairs, looking-glass, and pictures of the four seasons, composed the furniture; the library consisted of a prayer-book, almanack, and one volume of the Naval Chronicle. On the left hand was a room, with a range of machines for extracting the seeds from the cotton. Round the house were abundance of goats, turkeys, fowls, a bull, cow, pigs, dogs, and cats. The house was situated to make a man

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 216.

feel its comforts whenever the weather was bad; on an inferior eminence, commanding a view of the bay, a musket-shot from the precipice.

The old gentleman was dressed in a large broad-brimmed white hat, which appeared to have been in use for half a century; a white night-cap covered his bald head; his blue jacket had lappels buttoned back; his duck waistcoat had flaps down to his knees; the trowsers were of the same material as the waistcoat. Negro girls, five or six years old, were running about without any fear of spoiling their frocks—they were quite naked. "We should think this an odd sight in England, Sir." "Oh, we cover the Whites always, and the Mulattoes; but we should have enough to do to cover these," was his answer. But though naked, they appeared healthy and cheerful.

The man leading this isolated life, with only his old wife, who looked more like an Egyptian mummy than any thing human, was worth £60,000 sterling. Hospitality had not lessened his gains; for though the two ladies of our party were kissed by the old lady, we were obliged to ask for a glass of water for them.

The proprietor said that he had lived twenty years on that small island, and twenty upon Tortola, and that in one shooting season of three months he killed five and forty hundred pigeons himself.

There was no church upon Tortola or any of the islands which form Drake's Bay.

In April, the methodists in Jamaica reported their numbers, twenty-four Whites and eight hundred and eight coloured people and Blacks, being an increase within the last twelve months of full three hundred.

The methodists in Barbadoes consisted of twenty Whites and twenty-one persons of colour.

The Jamaica report returns the following number of slaves: 312,341; Negroes imported, 8,487; exported, 166.

In the middle of this year, the number of methodists in society in New Providence was 170; of these, fifteen only were Whites; in the adjoining islands they had eighty-four; so that in the whole of the Bahamas 254 had joined the methodist connection.

Early in October the number of methodists in society in St. Bartholomew's amounted to 200. Mr. Dobson, the missionary, says, in a letter dated October 13th, "I must observe that trade has nearly forsaken us, and the island is brought almost to a state of starvation. For two or three years we have had very little rain, so that the island has not produced sufficient for the support of the inhabitants. Many hundreds of the people are gone away, having nothing to do. Our society is so poor, that many of the members cannot contribute any thing to the support of the Gospel, and some-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 6. 161.; vol. iii. pp. 86. 88. 134. 215, 216.
Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves.—Appendix.

times I have hardly sufficient for the necessities of life. I have been informed that two persons in the country have died with hunger." At the close of the year the number in society was reduced to 117.

In August, the number of methodists in society in the Virgin Islands was 2,040, of whom thirty-eight were Whites.

In March, in Eleuthera (one of the Bahamas) they had seventy-two in society, forty-six of whom were Whites.

The exports from Demerary, between the 5th January 1805 and the 5th January 1806, employed 200 vessels, and were, 15,839 hogsheads 213 tierces 129 barrels of sugar, 3,611 puncheons and 17 hogsheads of rum, 21,202 bales and 5 bags of cotton, 2,295,701 pounds of coffee, and 1,687 casks of molasses.

The members of the insurance associations at Barbadoes, on the 19th of February, voted Captain Younghusband, of his Majesty's ship Heureux, 200 guineas, to purchase a piece of plate, as a mark of the high sense they entertained of the services he had rendered the trade by his exertions.[1]

On the 15th of March, they voted £500 to Rear-Admiral Cochrane, for his services in destroying the French fleet off St. Domingo.

Captain B. S. Bluett, in his Majesty's sloop Wasp, the 24th of May, off Dominica, captured the Napoleon privateer, (late his Majesty's cutter Dominica,) of seventy-three men.

His Majesty's packet the Duke of Montrose captured l'Imperial schooner, consort to the Napoleon.

Admiral Cochrane says, "the French general Hortade, with a party of soldiers, were taken on board these vessels. What motives could have induced an officer of his rank to engage in such petty predatory warfare I am at a loss to guess, particularly as he was taken without any uniform whatever. The captain of the Duke of Montrose packet deserves great credit for his exertions; he received on board a party of the 46th regiment, and at the desire of the President got under weigh and chased, and by this means the chooner was captured."

"I have the honour, &c.

"ALEX. COCHRANE."

"To Wm. Marsden, Esq."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 318.
Bolinbroke's Demerary, p. 80.

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[1] Admiral Cochrane, when he forwarded copies of Captain Younghusband's letters to the Admiralty, styles the writer, "that active officer Captain Younghusband."

They reported his having, in his Majesty's ship Heureux, on the 14th of January, 1806, captured the Spanish letter of marque Amelia, of eight six-pounders and forty men, from Corunna to Cumana, with a valuable cargo of dry goods and wine, and the French privateer ship Le Huron, of sixteen eighteen-pounders, two long nines, and 130 men, on the 8th of March, off Barbadoes.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 431.

General Dalrymple's report of the intended attack on Dominica.

" SIR, Dominica, May the 28th, 1806.

" In addition to the information contained in the postscript of my letter of the 25th instant, respecting the mutiny of the crew of the Dominica sloop, and of the projected attack from Guadaloupe upon the shipping in Roseau Bay, I have the pleasure to state, for the information of the commander of the forces, that the capture of the assailants has proved of more consequence, in a public point of view, than was at first imagined; insomuch as the information obtained thereby seems to develope a plan of a meditated attack upon this colony at some future period, and the local situation of it, and the rank of one of the officers employed, seems to countenance the idea.

" At the time of the mutiny, the island was left without the immediate protection of any of our cruisers, and many very valuable sugar-ships were moored in the bay; and from the speedy reappearance of the Dominica, not a doubt remained in my mind of the mutineers having advised, and of their being assisted in the attempt upon them; and the idea of this piece of complicated villany and baseness, so repugnant to the sentiments of a British seaman, naturally excited feelings of indignation in every breast, and called for the exertion of means calculated to frustrate the attempt, and to get possession, if possible, of the miscreants, by whose infamy it was devised, and who were supposed to be aiding in its execution.

"Being informed that the packet was one of the fastest sailers in the service, and that her commander was an enterprizing and zealous man, and very desirous to afford any assistance, but learning also, that he had only a crew of twenty-two men, including boys, and perceiving likewise the enemy's vessels to be crowded with men, and surrounded by boats, I judged it advisable to reinforce her with troops; and from the unusual circumstances of the case, and successful result, without the smallest loss of blood, I trust my measures will meet the concurrence of the commander of the forces. And here I consider it but just to the prompt, determined, and soldier-like conduct of the officers and men employed, to state, that they were principally instrumental in contributing to the success of the enterprize. On board of the packet were twenty-six men of the 46th, and thirteen of the 3d West India regiment, under the command of Lieutenant Wallis, of the former corps.

" She had the good luck to be the only vessel which had the *heels* of the enemy's schooner: she consequently brought her to action, and after an engagement of three quarters of an hour, within musket and pistol shot, succeeded in capturing her. The packet, too, from her superiority of sailing, and judicious manœuvres,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 50.

obliged the Dominica to alter her course, by which she was thrown into the way of one of our sloops of war, and was consequently taken. The zeal and disinterestedness of her commander is highly commendable, as, from his instructions, he had a good deal to risk. Much praise is due to Lieutenant Wallis, of the 46th regiment, who commanded the troops; and his inspiring example, and judicious arrangements, in covering his men from the enemy's sharpshooters, are highly respectable to him. His example was imitated by Lieutenant Forrest of the same regiment; and the *esprit de corps* of the 46th regiment was conspicuous in every individual of it engaged.

"I beg leave likewise to mention the zeal of a very young gentleman, Lieutenant Hamilton of the 46th, who, though very much indisposed, insisted upon taking his tour of duty, and succeeded, with twelve men and a serjeant of the same corps, in two merchantmen's boats, in retaking a colonial sloop, though several leagues at sea.

I have been thus minute in detailing the circumstances of this little exploit, from the novelty of its nature, and from the satisfaction I feel in stating, that not a single man employed has sustained the smallest injury, and which I ascribe to the uniform discipline displayed by the detachment of the 46th regiment, and also from the steady conduct of the party of the light company of the 3d West India regiment. I have the honour to be, &c.

"S. Dalrymple, Major-General."

"Lieutenant-Colonel Huniber
D. H. General."

From the Dominica Journal, September 20th, 1806.

"Roseau, September 20.

"We again resume our journal, after an interruption occasioned by the confusion and loss sustained in the office during the late hurricane, one of the greatest calamities this colony has sustained within the memory of its oldest inhabitants. To give a detail of all the particulars of that unfortunate event would be a task impossible to fulfil with accuracy, until things commence to be a little more settled, and that a regular communication with the country should be opened, the roads being entirely destroyed. We shall therefore confine ourselves chiefly to the giving a general idea of the whole, as far as the intelligence received from the different parts of the colony may enable us.

"On Tuesday the 9th instant, about seven o'clock in the evening, the sky became totally overcast, and tremendous flashes of lightning, accompanied by heavy puffs of wind, presaged to the more experienced part of the inhabitants an approaching storm;

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 437.

but few expected it would have been so fatal in its consequences. The wind continued increasing until ten o'clock, when it began to be accompanied by a most dreadful fall of rain, the effect of which, accompanied by a pitch-like darkness, each moment illuminated by a sheet of livid fire, and the roaring of the wind, which every instant became louder, was awful enough to impress a dread upon the heart of the most intrepid. Soon after, to complete our misfortune, the river Roseau, increased by the heavy rains, overflowed its banks, inundated the town in every direction, and then the destruction became general. Every house which obstructed its passage was thrown down, or carried away by the stream; and a great proportion of their unfortunate inhabitants perished. About ten o'clock every vessel in the harbour was driven from its moorings, except a small Swedish schooner, which was cast ashore under the fort a little after midnight; and those who were driven out generally met with the same fate, amounting, in the whole, to sixteen sail, of different descriptions.

"No pen can paint the horrors of that dreadful night; the tremendous noise occasioned by the wind and rain, the roaring of the waters, together with the shock of an earthquake, which was sensibly felt about midnight — the shrieks of the poor sufferers crying out for assistance — the terror of those who in their houses heard them, and dared not open a door or window to give succour, and who expected momently to share the same fate, formed a scene which can hardly be conceived, and still more difficult to be described. Fortunately for the inhabitants of the town, and, indeed, for the whole colony, the force of the wind and rain abated about three o'clock in the morning, and near the same time the water began to fall. If it had continued another hour, there is not a doubt but the town would have been entirely destroyed.

"The spectacle which presented itself, on the return of daylight, was horrid beyond every power of description. Heaps of mud and sand, (in some places five or six feet deep,) through all parts of the town — the form of a street hardly to be discerned — two large streams, or rather torrents, running through the midst of the town — ruins of houses blown down, and others brought down by the flood, obstructing every passage — the carcases of several of the unfortunate victims of this event drawn out from the ruins, and lying in the streets — while numbers, almost distracted, were searching for some near relation or friend, who had perished in the storm — the lamentations of those who had lost some of their nearest and dearest connections, joined to the despair of those who had lost their little all, formed altogether a scene fit to draw tears from the eyes of the most unfeeling.

"From the most authentic accounts which have been gathered during the confusion occasioned by this fatal occurrence, there has

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 437.

been ascertained to have perished in the town of Roseau and its vicinity, eight white persons of different sexes and ages, fifty-seven free persons of colour, and sixty-six slaves, forming a total of 131, besides numbers of others yet missing, and several wounded.

" On Morne Bruce, where that part of the garrison stationed at Roseau is quartered, the whole of the barracks were blown down, excepting one; three men and one woman killed, and one man wounded.

" The planters have equally suffered with the inhabitants of the town. Every plantation on the windward coast of the island, from the river Tabarie to Morne Paix Bouche, are almost entirely destroyed; only three mills standing in the whole extent, and these considerably damaged. No other building left on either sugar or coffee estate, and the numerous inhabitants of that quarter have only for shelter four houses situated at some distance from the sea, to which most of the white inhabitants have retired. On the different estates on that coast, as far as accounts have reached town,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 437.

Captain A. Mackenzie, in his Majesty's ship Magicienne, on the 25th of January, in the Mona Passage, captured El Carmen, Spanish packet of two guns and eighteen men.

Lieutenant John Baker, in his Majesty's brig Grenada, off Martinico, on the 15th of February, captured the French schooner Princess Murat, of two forty-two pounders, one nine-pounder, and swivels, which were all mounted " to bear at the same time in any direction," and fifty-two men, after an action of four hours and a half.

Captain F. A. Collier, in his Majesty's brig Wolverene, on the 12th of March, captured the French national schooner Le Tremeuse, of three guns and fifty-three men, from Guadaloupe.

Lieutenant Briarly, in his Majesty's schooner Brilliant, in Pardo Bay on the Spanish main, captured the Vacuna privateer row-boat, and three sail of small vessels which she had taken.

His Majesty's ships Heureux and Agamemnon, on the 29th of March, off Barbadoes, captured the Dame Ernouf, of seventeen guns and 115 men, from Guadaloupe.

Captain Fyffe, in his Majesty's sloop Reindeer, off Cape San Nicholas, St. Domingo, on the 21st of April, captured La Creole, French schooner privateer, of fourteen guns and seventy-five men.

Captain Wise, in his Majesty's sloop Elk, off Cape Cruz, Cuba, on the 5th of May, captured La Cubana, Spanish row-boat privateer, one swivel, small arms, and fourteen men, and retook two of her prizes.

Captain Selby, in his Majesty's ship Cerberus, off the east end of Jamaica, on the 15th of May, captured L'Amiable Theresa, of Cuba, of two brass howitzers and eighteen men.

Lieutenant J. Rorie, in his Majesty's brig Morne Fortunée, off Beata, on the 16th of May, captured the French privateer Le Luni, of two guns and forty-seven men, from St. Domingo.

The same officer, on the 3d of June, off Saona, destroyed the Spanish letter of marque schooner L'Aimable Jenette, of two guns and twenty men. He drove her ashore, and Mr. Kingston destroyed her.

Captain Vansittart, in his Majesty's ship Fortunée, on the 18th of May, off St. Domingo, captured the Grand Juge Bertolio, French privateer schooner, of seven guns and 120 men, from Guadaloupe.

Captain Coghan, in his Majesty's sloop Renard, captured, on the 26th of May, the French corvette Diligent, of sixteen guns and 125 men, from Guadaloupe, bound to France with dispatches.

Lieutenant John Brown, of his Majesty's schooner Morne Fortunée, off Martinico, on the 18th of June, captured the French privateer schooner Hope, of four guns and forty-four men, from Martinico.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. pp. 347. 350. 432.; vol. xvi. pp. 79. 86.

there have perished about thirty Negroes, and upwards of 180 dangerously wounded. Round the coast from the river Tabarie, by way of La Soye, the estate which bears the name of that river, is perhaps the only one that has not received any considerable damage in this general disaster.

" All the plantations to leeward of the island have experienced the effects of the hurricane. Every house, from the river Mahaur down to Prince Rupert's, either laid flat, or greatly damaged — the town of Portsmouth entirely destroyed — the greatest part of the barracks on Morne Cabrit carried away; and, in general, the whole island offers a scene of devastation and ruin."

Captain Chambers' Letter to Vice-Admiral Dacres.

" Sir, " His Majesty's sloop Port Mahon, June 26th, 1806.

" A Spanish armed brig was yesterday chased by his Majesty's sloop Port Mahon, under my command, into the intricate harbour of Banes, which is defended by a high tower mounted with two heavy guns. At nine in the evening, the boats were dispatched under the command of Lieutenant John Marshall, assisted by Lieutenant Wray, and Mr. John Robson, gunner, to get her out. This morning, at one, she was boarded under a heavy fire of great guns and small arms from the vessel and battery (to which she was moored by a line), and carried. Much difficulty attended getting her out, as she grounded within pistol-shot of the battery, from which several shots struck her. She proves to be the Spanish letter of marque St. Joseph, armed with one long eighteen-pounder, on a pivot amidships, four twelve-pound carronades, and two four-pounders, with swivels, pikes, and musketry, and thirty men, who were on deck to receive the boats; from Havaña, bound to Campeachy, with brandy, dry goods, &c. It is very gratifying for me to add, that although several of the oars were broke and boats damaged by shot, while rowing to the attack, yet not a man was hurt.

" I hope, Sir, you will conceive, that the capture of this vessel, situated and defended as above recited, was fully adequate to the force employed, and that it reflects great credit on Lieutenant Marshall, and the officers and seamen employed.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To J. R. Dacres, Esq., " Samuel Chambers."
Commander-in-Chief, &c."

Captain J. R. Dacres' Report of the cutting out, from the Harbour of Santa Martha, an armed Brig and two armed Feluccas.

" Sir, " His Majesty's ship Bacchante, off Cape Aguga,
September 1st, 1806.

" In reconnoitring the harbour of St. Martha, I perceived lying there a brig and two feluccas; and judging it practicable to bring

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. pp. 505, 506.

them out, or at least to destroy them, on the night of the 29th ult. I dispatched the boats under the command of Lieutenant Norton, whose abilities as an officer and knowledge of the place promised success, (assisted by the officers named in the margin.) They arrived at the entrance of the harbour at one o'clock, and immediately dashed for the vessels under a tremendous fire from the forts, vessels, and the shore, the beach being lined with field-pieces and musketry, the feluccas keeping up a heavy fire until the boats were alongside; the crews made a short resistance, and quitted them. Notwithstanding such a heavy fire, they succeeded in bringing out the brig and two feluccas, without the loss of a single man. Two of the vessels having their sails unbent, they were obliged to be towed out, which detained them till near four o'clock — the whole of which time they were under the enemy's batteries.

" Lieutenant Norton informs me, the coolness of the officers, seamen, and marines, under his command, and attention to the orders given, was such as merit the highest approbation, and that they in every respect behaved as became British seamen.

" I beg leave to recommend to you, for promotion, Mr. Overhand, master's mate, who commanded one of the cutters, and who has passed his examination for lieutenant.

" I have the honour to be, &c.'

" To J. R. Dacres, Esq. &c." " J. R. Dacres, jun."

Captain Rushworth's Report of destroying some Vessels.

" His Majesty's sloop Superieure, off the Isle of Pines,
Sept. 9th, 1806.

" Sir,

" I have the honour to acquaint you, after leaving his Majesty's sloop Stork on the 25th of August, off the Isle of Pines, it took us to the 2d of this month to get off point Gondas, distance N. W. 22 miles from Batabano, when I anchored with the Flying Fish and Pike schooners; at midnight weighed and stood for Batabano, to be off that place before break of day; but, owing to baffling winds, it took us until daylight. I thought it expedient to land, which I accordingly did, with eighteen men from the Stork, thirty-five from the Superieure, and ten from the Flying Fish to guard the boats; but after landing two miles to windward of the battery, the marshy irregular ground so impeded our march, that the enemy perceiving it, sent a party of soldiers to way-lay us in the thick bushes; but the most forward of my party charged and completely put them to the rout, after leaving two killed and one badly wounded. At that period a general alarm had spread; the militia had joined the stationary regulars in the front, aided by the men from the shipping in the bay. Our retreat being cut off, we were obliged to rush

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 507.

forward to gain the fort, which I am happy to say was completely carried in three minutes; the enemy retreated in all directions, after firing two guns and a volley of small arms towards the path we were obliged to pass. The battery consisted of six long eighteen-pounders, mounted on travelling carriages, which we spiked, and then proceeded to take possession of the vessels, which consisted of one felucca, pierced for fourteen guns, having one eighteen-pounder and twelve blunderbusses on board; a schooner pierced for twelve; a French privateer of four, and three other Spanish vessels, with one gun each; six other smaller with cargoes, which were saved, and the vessels burnt, not having sufficient men to carry them out. The next morning came off a flag of truce; from them I learn their loss was considerable. I am happy to add, we had only one man badly wounded on the occasion.

"I also feel it my duty to state the great assistance I received from Lieutenants Russell and Murray, and Sub-lieutenants Blake and Brown. The seamen and marines under my command acted in a most gallant manner. Two days after, I captured a Spanish armed schooner, St. John, of three guns and thirty-two men, after a slight resistance.

"I am, &c.

"George Le Geyt, Esq. "EDWARD RUSHWORTH."
Commander of his Majesty's sloop Stork."

On the 24th of August the boats of his Majesty's ship Alexandria, under the command of Lieutenants Lewis and Nagle, and Mr. Smith, were defeated in an attempt to cut out a brig and guarda costa schooner from under some batteries on the Spanish main. The boats having missed the port on a preceding night, the Spaniards were too well prepared for a second attempt to succeed; the vessels were unrigged and hauled on shore; the English carried them by boarding; but were obliged to set them on fire, and make the best of their way out, with the loss of nineteen men killed and wounded.

Vice Admiral Dacres to William Marsden, Esq.

"SIR, "Shark, Port Royal, October 4th, 1806.

"I am much gratified in transmitting you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter I have just received from Captain Brisbane of the Arethusa, acquainting me of the capture of His Catholic Majesty's frigate Pomona; the destruction of twelve gun-boats, and the explosion of a castle, mounting sixteen thirty-six-pounders, by that ship and the Anson. The success attending this bold enterprise, I trust their lordships will agree with me, Captain Brisbane was well entitled to, for the

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. pp. 486. 503.

promptness and decision with which he anchored in such shoal water, to attack a force of such magnitude. The destruction of the gun-boats was occasioned by the Anson's well-directed fire. The conduct of all concerned will, I trust, be honoured by their lordships' approbation. "I am, &c.

"J. R. DACRES."

"SIR, "Arethusa, off the Havana, August 23d, 1806.

"I have the honour to inform you of a successful attack having been made by his Majesty's ships Arethusa and Anson on the enemy near Moro Castle, in the island of Cuba, on the morning of the 23d instant. The result has been the capture of the Spanish frigate Pomona, of thirty-eight guns, with a complement of 347 men, and the destruction of twelve gun-boats, each carrying a twenty-four-pounder, with a complement of an hundred men each, and the explosion of a castle mounting sixteen thirty-six pounders.

"I trust you will excuse my entering into a detail of the service performed; in justice to the officers and men under my orders, I feel it right you should be made acquainted with the particulars.

"On the morning of the 23d instant, I discovered the enemy within two miles of the Moro Castle, rather to leeward, carrying all possible sail to get into the Havaña; I therefore made the signal to lay the enemy on board, on coming up with her; but my design was frustrated by the Pomona bearing up, having been joined by twelve gun-boats from the Havaña, and anchoring within pistol-shot of a castle, mounting sixteen thirty-six-pounders, in three fathoms and a half water. The gun-boats advanced from her in a line abreast.

"These boats were sent out expressly to protect the Pomona at her anchorage. This line of defence certainly appeared formidable, added to a lee shore; but difficulties with British seamen are easily got the better of, and well knowing the able and gallant support I should meet with from Captain Lydiard, I decided instantly to attack the enemy in their strong position, and bore up for that purpose, having previously passed a bower cable through the stern port. In going down, both ships suffered considerably in their sails and rigging from the raking fire of the gun-boats, the Pomona and Castle reserving theirs until we anchored.

"At ten A. M. I anchored his Majesty's ship Arethusa close alongside the Pomona, in one foot water more than the ship drew; the Anson on my larboard bow; when the action became general, but not of long duration, the Pomona having struck her colours in thirty-five minutes; three gun-boats blew up; six were sunk, and three driven on shore on the breakers.

"Notwithstanding the severe fire from the castle, the Pomona was instantly taken possession of by Lieutenant Parish, first of the

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 504.

Arethusa, and followed by Lieutenant Sullivan, first of the Anson. The castle had now commenced firing red-hot shot, which occasioned the Arethusa to be set on fire, but was soon extinguished by the very proper arrangements of Lieutenants Higman and Griffith, commanding the main deck. Shortly after a melancholy and dreadful explosion took place in the castle, after which all firing ceased.

"It now becomes a pleasing part of my duty to recommend to your particular notice the steady and gallant conduct of Captain Lydiard, the officers and men of both ships, all appearing to be animated with the same enthusiastic zeal.

"Vice Admiral Dacres, "I have, &c.
Commander-in-chief, &c." "CHARLES BRISBANE."

A List of killed and wounded.

"Arethusa.—Two killed and thirty-two wounded.

"Anson.—None killed or wounded.

"Spanish frigate Pomona.—Captain and twenty men killed; two lieutenants and thirty men wounded.

"Gun-boats.—The loss of men must have been considerable, as very few of them reached the shore from those boats which were blown up and sunk. "CHARLES BRISBANE."

"The Pomona was from Vera Cruz, bound to the Havaña, laden with spices and merchandize.

"The money belonging to the King was landed at the castle by the governor of the Havaña and the Spanish admiral, who had previously come out to place the Pomona in safety, as they considered her under the protection of the castle, and had only left her ten minutes before the action commenced.

"The freight belonging to the merchants, with plate and various kinds of merchandize, I have captured. "CHARLES BRISBANE."

On the 15th of September, Captain Lydiard, in his Majesty's ship Anson, off the Havaña, fell in with the Foudroyant, French seventy-four, bearing Admiral Villaumez' flag, under jury-masts. Captain Lydiard, in his public letter to Admiral Dacres, says, "Yesterday, at daylight, the Havaña bearing W.S.W. distant five leagues, discovered a large ship about six miles a-head. All sail was immediately made in chase; the wind being very light and variable, it was one P. M. before we closed with her, and then she was not free from the Moro Castle. After an hour's action (nearly calm), finding she had not been weakened by a former one, as I hoped had been the case, and the ship drifting fast on shore, I was obliged to haul off.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 447.

" I should be wanting in justice to the officers and ship's company of the Anson, if I did not express to you my strongest approbation of their conduct. I am sorry to add, that we have lost two valuable seamen killed, four dangerously wounded, and nine slightly. The sails and rigging much cut.

" The Foudroyant had twenty-seven killed and wounded. The San Lorenzo, Spanish seventy-four, and several gun-boats, got under weigh from the Havaña, to assist the Foudroyant, and were in sight during the action."

Captain Sayer's Report of the Proceedings of the Galatea's Boats.

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Galatea, off Martinico, Oct. 24th, 1806.

" On the night of the 9th instant, three boats from this ship, under the direction of Mr. Richard Gittins (first lieutenant), rowed up in face of the batteries of Barcelona, on the Spanish main, cut adrift and cut out four Spanish schooners, in spite of every obstacle.

" The enemy opened their fire of round and grape-shot from three batteries nearly at the same time, accompanied with musketry from them and the beach, the schooners being moored head and stern close to it. It was calm, and, from the nature of the bay, our boats were exposed an hour and half to this fire, providentially without the loss of a man, although they bore, as well as the prizes, abundant proof of its being well directed.

" They are large excellent vessels, two of them coppered, and well calculated for his Majesty's service.

" Lieutenant Gittins's conduct speaks for itself. He mentions that of Mr. J. Green, master's mate, and Mr. Scanlan, boatswain, in terms which recommend them both.

" It is superfluous to say, our brave fellows behaved in a way that manifests how much they glory in perilous enterprizes against their enemies. " I am, &c.

" GEORGE SAYER."

" Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, &c."

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Pique, Mona Passage, Nov. 2d, 1806.

" I have the honour to inform you, that the barge and two other boats of his Majesty's ship under my command were sent yesterday to intercept a schooner coming round Cape Roxo, Porto Rico; but

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvi. p. 509.; vol. xvii. p. 162.

Captain John Barker, in his Majesty's sloop Grenada, off London Bridge Rock, on the 27th of November, captured Le Tigre, French privateer, of two guns and twenty-six men, from Guadaloupe.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 158.

owing to a very heavy squall with rain coming off shore, they lost sight of her in the night; but I have great satisfaction in adding, that Lieutenant Bell, who commanded the party, assisted by Lieutenant Baillie, of the royal marines, pushed in for Cabaret Bay, when they completely succeeded in destroying a battery on shore, of three guns, spiking them up, breaking the carriages, and bringing out a very fine Spanish copper-bottomed brig, pierced for twelve guns.

"I have the honour, &c.
"C. B. H. Ross."

"To J. R. Dacres, Esq. &c."

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Pique, Mona Passage, 5th Nov. 1806.

"I have the honour to inform you, that on the 2d instant, Lieutenant Baker, in the launch of his Majesty's ship under my command, chased and drove on shore, after some smart skirmishing, upon the reef of Cape Roxo, a French felucca-rigged privateer, of two guns, four swivels, and twenty-six men, where she was totally lost. I have the pleasure further to inform you, that on his returning to join the ship, he succeeded in capturing (after a very long chase) another very fast-sailing French privateer, of one gun and twenty men.

"I have, &c.
"C. B. H. Ross."

"J. R. Dacres, Esq.
Vice-Admiral of the White."

Captain Briggs's Letter to Admiral Dacres.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Orpheus, at sea, 21st November, 1806.

"I beg to inform you, that Lieutenant G. B. Vine did, on the night of the 20th instant, in the barge of his Majesty's ship Orpheus,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 345.

Lieutenant Dean, of his Majesty's armed brig Dominica, on the 18th of August, captured, between Dominica and Marie-galante, the French row-boat privateer La Bateuse, armed with musketry, and nineteen men. Also, on the 4th of October, the French national schooner La Chiffone, armed with musketry, employed as a dispatch vessel between Guadaloupe and Martinico.

Captain Briggs, of his Majesty's ship Orpheus, captured the Guadaloupe, a French schooner privateer, of three six-pounders and fifty-four men.

Captain Morris, in his Majesty's brig Elk, captured, on the Jamaica station, on the 1st of October, the Alliance, French privateer, of five guns and seventy-five men. Captain Morris sprung his main-top-mast in chase of her, and ran her down, to prevent her attempting to get to windward of him. She sunk soon after the prisoners were taken out.

Captain Coghlan, in his Majesty's ship Renard, on the 11th of October, captured the Bellona, French privateer schooner, of four guns and fifty men, off St. Domingo. She belonged to Cuba.

His Majesty's ship Bacchante, Captain Randall Macdonnell, off Jamaica, on the 18th of November, captured Les dos Azares, of two guns and thirty-six men, from Cuba.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xv. p. 247.; vol. xvi. pp. 506. 510.

very gallantly board and carry the Spanish man-of-war schooner, Dolores, mounting one long nine, two four-pounders, and four swivels, with a complement of thirty-four men, in Campeachy Bay, which schooner was sent out for the express purpose of attacking the Orpheus's boats. "I am, &c.

"To J. R. Dacres, Esq." "THOS. BRIGGS."

"SIR, "His Majesty's ship Success, Lucea, 6th Dec. 1806.

"I beg leave to inform you, that on the morning of the 20th of last month, standing in for the land to the eastward of Cumberland harbour, I observed a small felucca running into Hidden Port. Mr. W. Duke, the first lieutenant, volunteered his services, with Lieutenant Charles Spence, and acting lieutenant D. O'Reilly. The barge and yawl were armed, and instantly dispatched. On their approach they found her crew had landed, about fifty in number, with their small arms, and the only long gun; had lashed the vessel to the trees; posted themselves on a hill close to the beech, and fired down on our boats with grape and musketry, in the most determined manner. I am sorry to say Lieutenant Duke was killed the first volley. Lieutenant Spence, who took the command, informs me it was impossible to stand the continual fire kept up from our boats for one hour and twenty minutes, several of the enemy having fallen during that time. From the barge being shot through in many places, and seven wounded men in the boats, Lieutenant Spence very properly judged it would be only sacrificing the lives of the brave party to attempt the hill, he therefore ordered the vessel to be towed out, which was done from under a heavy fire of grape. By her journal she appears to be the Vengeur, French privateer, and sailed from the city of St. Domingo the 1st of October, which, from being leaky, owing to shot-holes, &c. sunk astern of the ship. Lieutenant Spence speaks in the highest terms of the acting lieutenant, O'Reilly (who has been in that situation with me above eight months), the petty officers, seamen, and marines under his orders. I cannot omit recommending to your notice Mr. W. R. Hughes, master's-mate, who has passed for a lieutenant, and conducted himself in a very spirited manner.

"With concern I enclose you a list of the killed, wounded, and missing, and have the honour to be, &c.

"JOHN AYSCOUGH."

"One killed; seven wounded; one missing."

Jerome Buonaparte, in the Veteran 74, was in the West Indies this year. The Veteran was one of Admiral Guillaumez' squadron.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 41.

Captain Briggs, in his Majesty's ship Orpheus, in the Gulf of Mexico, on the 12th of November, captured the Spanish schooner Susanna, of four guns.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 163.

The following extracts are from the French paper of the 9th September:—" From the 13th December to the 26th August this prince (Jerome) continually kept the sea, in the midst of hostile squadrons, supporting in every quarter the honour of the French flag, and doing irreparable mischief to the English commerce." " He went to St. Helena, afterwards put into St. Salvadore, coasted along South America, and on a sudden appeared in the West Indies, throwing the trade and colonies of the enemy into consternation, and obliging Admiral Cochrane to take shelter in Barbadoes." " The squadron quitted Martinico, and went to St. Domingo, where it repressed the scandalous traffic of some American adventurers who trade with the rebel Negroes. When standing to the northward, the Veteran separated from the other ships in a gale of wind, and steered for France." " The only time when Admiral Duckworth, with a superior force, was near enough to render an engagement probable, the prince entreated Admiral Guillaumez to be allowed the honour of leading the squadron into action." " Every thing leads us to hope the result would have been glorious to the French navy, if the wind had not separated the two squadrons, and given Admiral Guillaumez an opportunity of pursuing his destination." The French say they saw Admiral Cochrane with four ships and two frigates three leagues to windward, off Tortola; " but that admiral perceiving that the French squadron manœuvred to bring him to an engagement, put to sea, and, having the wind, soon disappeared." Few men ever had a narrower escape than Prince Jerome. —" At the time of the insurrection in 1791, Dessalines was the slave of a Negro, whose name he took in addition to that of Jean Jacques. This man, who was a tiler, lived to see his former slave become his sovereign. Dessalines retained a great affection for him, and appointed him to the office of his chief butler; and in this capacity he made up for the abstemiousness of Dessalines, who drank nothing but water. This first sovereign of Hayti was short in stature, but strongly made; of great activity, and undaunted courage. In military talent he was considered superior to Toussaint, but in all other respects far below him. His personal vanity led him to a ridiculous splendour in his dress, and he wished to be thought an elegant dancer. His wife was one of the most handsome and accomplished Negresses in the West Indies; she had been the favourite mistress of a rich planter, at whose expence she was educated: her disposition was highly amiable, and she used on all occasions her best endeavours to soften the natural ferocity of her husband, though, unhappily, not always with success. This transatlantic Robespierre proceeded in his career of blood till the 17th October, 1806, when he perished by the hands of the Mulatto soldiers of Petion."

Upon the 27th of December, 1806, Petion was proclaimed president of the republic of Hayti.

Quarterly Review for September, 1819, pp. 450, 451.

1807.

Capture of Curaçoa.

"Sir, "Shark, Port Royal, 11th January, 1807.

"I have much satisfaction in congratulating my lords commissioners of the admiralty on the capture of the island of Curaçoa, on New Year's day, by the four frigates named in the margin[1], under the orders of Captain Brisbane of the Arethusa, a copy of whose letter I enclose for their lordships' information.

"Whilst I contemplate the immense strength of the harbour of Amsterdam, and the superior force contained in its different batteries opposed to the entrance of the frigates, I know not how sufficiently to admire the decision of Captain Brisbane in attempting the harbour, and the determined bravery and conduct displayed by himself, the three other captains, and all the officers and men under his command, and is another strong instance of the cool and determined bravery of British seamen. Captain Brisbane being, from his situation, obliged to act as governor, I have, as an acknowledgment and high approbation of his conduct, continued him in that situation until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known, and request in the strongest manner that their lordships will be pleased to recommend him for that appointment.

"Captain Lydiard (who will have the honour of delivering this, and who fully partook of the conquest, and has before distinguished himself off the Havaña,) I beg to refer their lordships to for any information. I shall put an acting captain into the Anson until his return, or I receive directions thereon. "I am, &c.

"W. Marsden, Esq." "J. R. Dacres."

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Arethusa, Curaçoa, Jan. 1st, 1807.

"It is with the most lively and heartfelt satisfaction I have the honour to inform you, that his Majesty's squadron under my command has this day opened the new year with what I humbly flatter myself will be deemed an enterprise of considerable consequence to my country.

"I proceeded in the execution of your orders of the 29th of November with every possible avidity, but the adverse wind and current prevented me from reaching this island before the 1st instant. In my way up I met Captain Bolton, of the Fisguard, going to Jamaica; I took him under my orders, according to your directions, and proceeded with the squadron off this port, having previously resolved on that system of attack which British seamen are so capa-

Naval Chronicle vol. xvii. pp. 167, 168.

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[1] Arethusa, Latona, Anson, and Fisguard.

ble of executing. My arrangements having been previously made known to the respective captains, I was satisfied nothing further remained for me than to put it in execution. My line of battle consisted of the Arethusa, Latona, Anson, and Fisguard; and, very soon after the break of day, I made all possible sail with the ships in close order of battle, passing the whole extensive line of sea batteries, and anchored the squadron in a style far surpassing my expectations. Being still desirous of having the effusion of human blood spared, I writ the enclosed, No. 1, on the capstan of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, during the action, which was not regarded, as they did their utmost to destroy us. Words cannot express the ability of the squadron. The harbour was defended by regular fortifications, of two tier of guns, Fort Amsterdam alone consisting of sixty-six pieces of cannon; the entrance only fifty yards wide; athwart was the Dutch frigate Hatslar, of thirty-six guns, and Surinam, of twenty-two, with two large schooners of war; one commanded by a Dutch commander; a chain of forts was on Misselburg, a commanding height; and that almost impregnable fortress, Fort Republique, within the distance of grape shot, enfilading the whole harbour.

" At a quarter past six o'clock we entered the port; a severe and destructive cannonade ensued; the frigate, sloop, and schooners were carried by boarding; the lower forts, the citadel and town of Amsterdam by storm; all of which, by seven o'clock, were in our possession. For humanity's sake I granted the annexed capitulation[1]; and, at ten o'clock, the British flag was hoisted on Fort Republique. The whole island is in our quiet possession.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 168.

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[1] Preliminary Articles of the Capitulation agreed upon by Charles Brisbane, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, and senior officer of a squadron of his Majesty's ships at Curaçoa, on the one part; and his Excellency Pierre Jean Changuion, Governor of the island of Curaçoa and its dependencies, on the other. " Curaçoa, Jan. 1st, 1807.

" Art. 1. The Fort Republique shall immediately be surrendered to the British force; the garrison shall march out with the honours of war, lay down their arms, and become prisoners of war.

" Ans. Granted.

" 2. The Dutch garrison at Curaçoa shall be prisoners of war, and by His Britannic Majesty sent to Holland, not to serve this war before they shall be regularly exchanged; and for the due performance of this article, the officers pledge their word of honour.

" Ans. Granted.

" 3. The same terms as in the above article are granted to the officers and people of the Dutch men-of-war.

" Ans. Granted.

" 4. All the civil officers may remain at their respective appointments, if they think proper; and those who choose shall be sent by His Britannic Majesty to Holland.

" Ans. Granted.

" 5. The burghers, merchants, planters, and other inhabitants, without difference of colour or opinion, shall be respected in their persons and property, provided they take the oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty.

" Ans. Granted; neutral property being respected.

" 6. All the merchant vessels, with their cargoes in the harbour, of whatsoever nation they belong to, shall be in the possession of their proper owners.

" Ans. Not granted.

"The strength, commerce, and value, I understand, is immense. It is now become a pleasing part of my duty, although impossible to do justice to their merits, to report the gallantry and determination of Captains Wood, Lydiard, and Bolton, who so nobly headed their respective ships' companies to the storm; and also the gallantry and determination of the officers, seamen, and marines, for following up so glorious an example. Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded in his Majesty's squadron. I have not yet been able to ascertain that of the enemy, except those in the ships. The Dutch commander was killed early in the action, and the captain of the Surinam severely wounded. I have appointed, by proclamation,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 168.

"7. A definitive capitulation shall be signed upon this basis in Fort Amsterdam.

"Ans. Granted."

"Curaçoa, Jan. 2d, 1807.

"The foregoing articles having this day been mutually read and agreed to, this capitulation is become definitive.

"Signed, on the one part, by
"Charles Brisbane.
"Signed, on the other part, by
his Excellency
"P. J. Changuion."

"A list of killed and wounded on board his Majesty's squadron under my command, at the capture of the island of Curaçoa, on the 1st of January, 1807.

"Total; three seamen killed, fourteen seamen wounded.

"Charles Brisbane."

"Curaçoa, January 3d, 1807.

"Lists of killed and wounded on board the Hatslar frigate, Surinam sloop, and Flying Fish schooner.

	Killed.	Wounded.
Hatslar	5	1
Surinam	0	5
Flying Fish	1	1
Total	6	7

"By Charles Brisbane, Esq., Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, and senior officer of a squadron of his Majesty's ships employed at Curaçoa.

"His Excellency, Lieutenant General Changuion, governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Curaçoa and its dependencies, having refused to take the oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty, and surrendered himself prisoner of war, I have thought proper to appoint myself governor of the said island and its dependencies, until the pleasure of the commander-in-chief is made known; and I do hereby appoint myself accordingly.

"Given under my hand at Curaçoa, this 4th January, 1807.

"Charles Brisbane."

"By Charles Brisbane, Esq., Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, and senior officer of his Majesty's squadron in Curaçoa Harbour.

"Whereas this island and its dependencies have surrendered to the arms of His Britannic Majesty, as appears by the capitulation which has been signed by his Excellency Pierre Jean Changuion and me, on the 1st instant, I therefore hereby require, that all burghers and inhabitants of this island shall meet on Wednesday next, the 7th instant, at ten o'clock in the morning, at the government house, in order to take the oath of allegiance to His Britannic Majesty aforesaid. Those who belong to the militia companies will receive further orders from their major, and are to conduct themselves accordingly. All those who fill public offices, of whatsoever nature they may be; and all such as do not belong to the militia companies, are also required to meet at the government house, at the hour and for the purpose aforesaid.—I expect that the burghers and inhabitants of this island will conduct themselves in such a manner as to deserve my protection and favour; and, on my part, shall not fail, as far as in my power lies, to promote the happiness and welfare of this island and its inhabitants; and I flatter myself, that my endeavours in this case will be crowned with the gracious approbation of my Sovereign, and, I hope, to the satisfaction of the inhabitants of this island and its dependencies.

"Given under my hand, on board his Majesty's ship Arethusa, in the harbour of Curaçoa, this 5th January, 1807.

"Charles Brisbane."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. pp. 169, 170.

Wednesday next, the 7th instant, for the inhabitants (who amount to thirty thousand) to take the oath of allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign; those who do not choose, will be instantly embarked as prisoners of war. For any further particulars, I must beg to refer you to that gallant officer, Captain Lydiard.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"To J. R. Dacres, Esq. &c." "CHARLES BRISBANE."

No. 1.

"SIR, "His Majesty's ship Arethusa, Curaçoa Harbour, Jan. 1st, 1807.

"The British squadron are here to protect, and not to conquer you; to preserve to you your lives, liberty, and property. If a shot is fired at any one of my squadron after this summons, I shall immediately storm your batteries. You have five minutes to accede to this determination. "I have the honour to be, &c.

"CHARLES BRISBANE."

"To His Excellency the Governor of Curaçoa."

The Arethusa, Captain Brisbane, led in; in the entrance the wind failed, but a fortunate squall, with a shift of wind two points in their favour, enabled the squadron to push in together. The enemy were panic-stricken; the Dutch frigate was boarded by Captain Brisbane. The Latona warped alongside and took possession of her. The Surinam was boarded from the larboard bow of the Anson, while her starboard guns were firing at the batteries. Captain Brisbane and Captain Lydiard landed at the same time, debarked their officers and ships companies; stormed the forts, citadel, and town, which were by seven o'clock completely in their possession. Captains Brisbane and Lydiard were the two first upon the walls of Fort Amsterdam. The enemy had 200 killed.

Captain Brisbane is stated to have put on his full-dress coat upon this occasion, and his men chalked "victory or death" upon their caps.

Captain Brisbane himself hauled down the colours on board the Hatslar frigate, and in Fort Amsterdam, which was garrisoned by 275 men; he then made his way to the governor, and told him precisely five minutes were allowed for him to decide upon surrendering. The governor requested half an hour, alleging that a shorter time would not save his head in Holland. Captain Brisbane assented; and at the expiration of the thirty minutes entered the council chamber, and asked whether the members had made up their minds to surrender the island. The governor immediately presented the articles of capitulation, to the whole of which, with one exception, Captain Brisbane agreed. By ten o'clock the British flag was hoisted on Fort Republique, and the whole island,

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 449.; vol. xx p. 99. Memoir of Sir C. Brisbane.

defended by 1200 militia, exclusive of regulars, was in quiet possession of the English, not exceeding 800 effective men, in less than four hours.

Captain Brisbane disarmed the militia, and expecting to retain the government of the island, furnished the government-house anew. But his Majesty's ministers in a short time nominated Sir James Cockburn, Bart. as his successor. Captain Brisbane was knighted, and had a medal given him, and a royal licence for some most honourable augmentations to his armorial bearings, "allusive to the capture of Curaçoa."

Admiral Dacres, in his dispatch of the 12th of January, 1807, reports, that between the 1st of January, 1806, and the 1st of January, 1807, the squadron under his command had captured forty-eight armed vessels, carrying 290 guns and 1917 men.

Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Alex. Cochrane, to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

"Sir, "Barbadoes, January 22d.

"The enclosed copies of letters from Captains Selby and Sayer, of his Majesty's ships Cerberus and Galatea; from Captain Hodge, of his Majesty's sloop St. Christopher; and from Lieutenant Dean, commanding his Majesty's armed brig Dominica, I request you will be pleased to lay before the lords commissioners of the admiralty. They gave me an account of the capture of two small privateers, a letter of marque, and two other vessels. Considerable spirit and gallantry were displayed by the officers and men in the boats of the Galatea and Cerberus: the loss in the latter ship has been rather great, and, I am sorry to add, that Lieutenant Coote's wound is of a very severe and dangerous nature.

"The Creole privateer schooner, of one gun and twenty-eight men, captured by the Circe on the 3d instant, also arrived in this bay.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"Alex. Cochrane."

Captain Hodge's prize was not taken by the boats, and was inferior in force to the St. Christopher.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Cerberus, off Martinico, Jan. 3d, 1807.

"I beg leave to acquaint you, that in pursuance of your orders to me by Captain Pigot, I reconnoitred the ports of Guadaloupe and the Saints; after having so done, and perceiving no force of any consequence, except a brig, of sixteen guns, lying in the Saints, I left Captain Pigot, of the Circe, off that port, and was proceeding to my former station in further pursuance of your directions, when on the 2d instant, as I was beating to windward

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. pp. 254, 335.

between Martinico and Dominico, I observed a privateer schooner, with a schooner and a sloop in company, standing for St. Pierre's, with French colours flying. I gave chase, and prevented them from reaching that port, upon which they all three anchored under a battery to the northward, near to the Pearl Rock, and very close to the shore.

" It however appeared to me practicable to cut them out in the night. I consulted Lieutenant Coote on the occasion, who, with Lieutenant Bligh, volunteered the attack; when, about eight o'clock, they very gallantly boarded two of the vessels, under a most tremendous fire of cannon and musketry from the shore, and brought them out, notwithstanding the enemy had taken the precaution to unbend their sails.

" Our loss, however, upon this occasion, has, I am concerned to say, been considerable. Lieutenant Coote has received a most desperate wound in the head, which has deprived him of his eyesight, and, I very much apprehend, will, eventually of his life. One midshipman was wounded by a musket ball in the leg, two men were killed, and eight more were wounded; a list of which I herewith enclose.

" I cannot close this account without expressing in the highest terms my entire satisfaction of the gallant conduct of Lieutenants Coote and Bligh, together with Mr. Hall, master's-mate, Mr. Sayer, Mr. Carlewis, and Mr. Selby, midshipmen, whose bravery on this occasion could not be exceeded, and which I feel assured will be the means of procuring them your approbation. Messrs. Horopka and Ratcore, Russian young gentlemen, serving as midshipmen, and Mr. Collins, boatswain, are also entitled to my warm praise.

" The privateer made her escape with her sweeps under cover of the darkness of the night. I herewith enclose you a list of the vessels captured, (one schooner, one sloop, French.)

" I have the honour to be,

" W. SELBY."

" The Cerberus had two killed and nine wounded."

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Galatea, off Guadaloupe, Nov. 12th, 1806.

" This morning I gave chase to a suspicious schooner in the N. W., and, after a few hours, got near enough to him, when it moderated by degrees to a calm, and our boats were dispatched under Lieutenants Gittens and Walker; in a few minutes after, they reached near enough to return his fire with musketry, and were on the point of boarding, when his French colours were struck, and proved to be the Reunion, a fine new vessel of ten guns, (pierced for fourteen,) copper bottom, from La Guira, bound to

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 336.

Martinico, with a cargo; she obtained some dispatches for the French general-in-chief from the Spanish government at the Caraccas. Not a man of ours was hurt, which I attribute to Lieutenant Gittens's judicious disposition of the boats while under the enemy's fire. Our men confirmed me in the good opinion I have so frequently had occasion to have of them.

"I have the honour to be,

"GEO. SAYER."

"Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane."

Admiral Cochrane to the Admiralty.

"SIR, "Northumberland, at sea, 2d February, 1807.

"I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter from Captain Sayer of his Majesty's ship Galatea, giving an account of the capture of the French national corvette Lynx (one of those which escaped from Sir Samuel Hood's squadron), by the boats of that ship, under the command of Lieutenant Coombe. When it is taken into consideration the fatigue of so long a row as the boats' crews had before they came up with the enemy; their great disparity in numbers; their having to attack a man-of-war under sail, completely prepared for their reception; and their perseverance in the attack, without a chance of support from the ship, after being twice repulsed; I may safely say that more determined bravery has not been shown during the war. While I admire their gallantry, I must sympathize with the friends of those who fell in the action. In the death of Lieutenant Henry Walker, who was some time ago promoted from this ship, the service has lost a most promising officer. Lieutenant Coombe's conduct speaks for itself, although he had before lost a leg, his activity in the execution of his duty has always been remarked; in this action he received a severe and a dangerous wound in the thigh, above the former amputation. I therefore feel assured their lordships will judge him deserving their protection.

"I have the honour, &c.

"ALEXANDER COCHRANE."

"SIR, "His Majesty's ship Galatea, coast of Caraccas, 22d Jan. 1807.

"Yesterday morning we discovered from the mast-head a sail in the S. E. steering for La Guira, and soon compelled her to another course for Barcelona. About noon it was mostly calm, when she appeared to be a man-of-war, and by her manœuvre, an enemy. She had now the advantage of us by a breeze, and with her lofty flying sails and sweeps was leaving us fast. At two o'clock her top-gallant sails

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 346.

were scarcely above the horizon, but in a situation between the ship and the coast, that still afforded me hopes of her, by co-operation of the boats: they pushed off under the direction of the first lieutenant, W. Coombe, manned with five officers, fifty seamen, and twenty marines, and, after rowing about twelve leagues in eight hours (part of the time under a burning sun), they came up with her, going with a light land breeze about two knots; having first hailed her, our brave fellows instantly attempted to board on both quarters; but by the fire of her guns, which had been trained aft in readiness, and having to combat, under every disadvantage, with more than double their numbers, were twice repulsed by them. The boats now dropped, and poured through her stern and quarter-ports a destructive fire of musquetoons and small arms that cleared the deck of many of the enemy, who were all crowded aft; when, after an arduous struggle (*a third time*) for a footing, our men rushed on board, and in a few minutes drove all before them; the bowsprit and jib-boom were covered; some flew aloft and others below. The captain and most of his officers were lying wounded on the decks, leaving the remainder of this handful of men in proud possession of the French imperial corvette Le Lynx, of fourteen twenty-four-pounders carronades, and two long nine-pounders, chasers, pierced for eighteen guns, and manned with 161 men, commanded by M. J. M. Yarquest, with dispatches from Guadaloupe for the Caraccas. She is two years old, and a well-equipped fine vessel in all respects for his Majesty's service. At the head of our invaluable men's names, who fell in this quarter of an hour's sharp contest, stands that of the second lieutenant, Harry Walker, of his third wound: of the officers commanding our five boats, only Lieutenant Gibson was unhurt. It may be unnecessary to add Lieutenant Coombe's report that every man did his duty. I am satisfied they did.

"I am, Sir, &c.

"George Sayer."

"To Sir Alex. Cochrane, K. B."

"Total; nine killed and twenty-two wounded; and on board the Lynx, fourteen killed and twenty wounded."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 346.

Captain T. Cochrane, in his Majesty's ship Jason, 28th January, off Soramine river, captured La Favorite, of 29 guns and 150 men.

Captain J. R. Dacres, in his Majesty's ship Bacchante, 14th February, captured, off Cape Raphael, the French schooner Dauphin, of three guns and seventy-one men.

Captain Matson, in his Majesty's ship Venus, off Barbadoes, 20th February, captured L'Etoile, French schooner, of six guns and fifty-four men, belonging to Guadaloupe.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 346.

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Bacchante, at sea, 25th Feb. 1807.

" Having captured the French national schooner, as mentioned in my letter of the 16th instant, which I found was well known in Samana (that nest for privateers), and having consulted with Captain Wise of the Mediator, whom I fell in with off the Mona, under similar orders to myself, cruizing for the annoyance of the enemy (whose vessels are principally privateers in these seas), I took him under my orders, and arrived at a determination to send the captured vessel in under her former colours, to disguise this ship as a prize, and the Mediator as a neutral; which stratagem so completely deceived them, that we got through the intricate navigation of the harbour, and anchored within half a mile of the fort, before the enemy discovered their mistake, and opened their fire upon us from the fort, which I have the pleasure to acquaint you, Sir, after a heavy cannonade of four hours from the ships, was carried by storm by the seamen and marines of both ships, landed under the command of Captain Wise, assisted by Lieutenants Baker, Norton, and Shaw. We found in the harbour an American ship, and an English schooner, prizes to the vessels afore-mentioned, and two French schooners then fitting for sea as cruizers. I am concerned to say the Mediator suffered considerably, the fire of the enemy being chiefly directed against her; but not so much as might be expected from the commanding situation of the fort, which was manned principally by the crews of the privateers. The behaviour of the officers and men of both ships was such as always distinguishes British seamen, and great credit is due to the masters for carrying the ships through so difficult a navigation, which caused this enterprise to be so completely successful.

The fort and cannon were destroyed by Lieutenant Gould when we evacuated the place on the 21st instant. The enemy's loss must have been considerable, though we could not ascertain the number from their retreating to the woods. Inclosed is a return of killed and wounded.

" To Vice Admiral Dacres." " J. R. DACRES, jun."

" Total, two killed and sixteen wounded."

Captain Nicholas' Report.

" SIR, " His Majesty's sloop Lark, at sea, March 10th, 1807.

" I have the honour to report you the proceedings of his Majesty's sloop I commanded during her late cruise. On the 19th of January we fell in with and chased an enemy's schooner, which, carrying a very heavy press of sail to escape from us, was overset in a squall, when the whole of her crew perished before the Lark reached the spot.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 516.

" On the 26th, late in the evening, we discovered two guarda costa schooners under the land, and by steering a suitable course to cut them off from Porto Bello, we, after fourteen hours chasing, on the 27th, captured them both; they were El Postillon, of one twelve-pounder, two six-pounders, and seventy-six men, and El Carmen, of one twelve-pounder, four six-pounders, and seventy-two men; both commanded by lieutenants of the Spanish navy; and were from Carthagena bound to Porto Bello.

" With these vessels in company, on the 1st of February, a convoy of market-boats, protected by two gun-boats and an armed schooner, were fallen in with; the former were driven on shore, but the latter took refuge in a creek of Zispata bay, protected by a four-gun battery; I followed them into the bay, and in a short time silenced the fort; but not being able to get at the gun-boats with the ship, the Lark was anchored at a convenient distance, and with the whole of our crew (twenty men excepted, on board the prizes,) I proceeded to attack them.

" The Spaniards rowed out to meet us, and, keeping up a resolute fire, approached, until we closed, when they fled; this moment was seized to board the sternmost of the enemy, carrying a long twenty-four-pounder and two six-pounders; she ran on shore, but was carried after a desperate resistance, by which, of sixteen men, three were disabled, and myself wounded. But here our success ended, for, in following the others up the creek, the pilot missed the channel, and ran the schooners on shore, without any prospect of getting them off; the action was therefore continued in this situation until five o'clock, when Mr. Pound (the purser), and two more men, being added to our list of wounded, I gave up the attempt, directing Lieutenant Bull to set the schooner on fire, and to cover the retreat. The Carmen blew up, and the Postillon was in flames, and otherwise so much disabled, that she must be lost to the enemy.

" The good conduct of the Lark's officers and crew entitle them to my thanks, and I trust their exertions may be rewarded by better fortune on a future occasion.

" I am, &c.

" To James Richard Dacres, Esq. " ROBERT NICHOLAS."
Vice-Admiral of the White, &c. &c."

A premium of £3 had been given by law, in Jamaica, to the overseer of any plantation, when the number of births among the slaves exceeded the deaths, which was to be ascertained by a return to the vestry. The act expired this year and was not revived. And thus the only measure that produced even partial evidence of natural increase or loss was discontinued, at the same time that the

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Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, p. 131.

slave trade was abolished[1], and the increase of the native population became an object of far deeper interest to the colony, if we suppose that act to be carried into execution.

Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, p. 131.

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[1] Abstract of Statute 47 Geo. III. chapter 36, passed 25th of March, 1807, and entitled "An act for the abolition of the slave trade."

By section 1. the African slave trade, and all manner of dealing in the purchase or sale of slaves from Africa, is, after the 1st of May, 1807, utterly abolished and declared to be unlawful; and also all dealing, &c. in slaves from any foreign country whatever, or in the West Indies, is in like manner utterly abolished, under the penalty of 100*l.* sterling for every slave the subject of any such offence; half the penalty goes to the King, the other moiety to the person who shall prosecute for the same.

Section 2. From and after the 1st of May, 1807, no British subject, &c. is to fit out, man, or navigate any vessel to be employed in the slave trade; every vessel so fitted out to be forfeited.

Section 3. enacts, that from and after the said 1st of May, 1807, no British subject, &c. shall carry away or remove as slaves any subject or inhabitant of Africa, &c. from Africa or any foreign country, or procure, aid, or assist therein, or to receive, detain, or confine on ship-board, any subject or inhabitant of Africa, &c. for the purpose of his being sold as a slave, under the penalty of forfeiture of ship and slaves; and every person assisting in any act in this section prohibited, to forfeit 100*l.* for every slave or person carried away or detained on board.

Section 4. enacts, that slaves unlawfully brought from Africa, or any place in the West Indies or America, not belonging to his Majesty, and imported into any British colony, and there kept in slavery, may be seized as forfeited to his Majesty, in the same manner as any goods unlawfully imported may be seized under the acts of navigation and trade.

Section 5. prohibits insurances on any transaction, &c. prohibited by this act, under the penalty of 100*l.* for every insurance, and also treble the sum paid or agreed to be paid as premium thereon; half to go to the King, and half to the prosecutor.

Section 6. is a clause of limitation in point of time, which has expired.

Section 7. regulates the treatment and disposal of slaves seized as forfeited under this act.

They are all to be treated and adjudged in the same manner as Negro slaves have been heretofore when seized as prize of war or as forfeited; but the same shall be condemned to the sole use of the King, for the purpose only of divesting and barring all other rights, &c. whatever which might be set up to such natives of Africa, but the same are in no case to be liable to be dealt with as slaves by his Majesty or any other person.

Proviso, that it shall be lawful for his Majesty, or such persons as he shall appoint to provide for such natives of Africa so condemned, to enlist them into his Majesty's land or sea service, or to bind them as apprentices for any term not exceeding fourteen years.

Section 8. provides that bounties on slaves taken as prize of war, shall be paid to the captors in like manner as head-money is paid by the prize act; the bounties to be such as his Majesty shall have directed by any order in council, so as the same shall not exceed 40*l.* sterling for every man, 30*l.* for every woman, and 10*l.* for every child not above fourteen years old. The bounties to be divided among the ship's crew the same as prize money.

Section 9. provides, that in order to enable the captors to receive the bounty, the number of slaves shall be proved to the commissioners of the navy, by producing a duly testified copy of the decree of condemnation, whereby the number shall appear to have been distinctly proved, and also by producing a certificate from the officer to whom the condemned Negroes shall have been delivered.

Section 10. Where doubts arise respecting the bounty money, the same shall be summarily determined by the judge of the high court of admiralty, or any court of admiralty, subject to appeal.

Section 11. provides bounties to be paid on the condemnation of slaves seized and condemned as forfeited for any offence against the acts of parliament for prohibiting the African slave trade. In all such cases (except in cases of seizures made at sea by his Majesty's vessels of war) there

In April, a free woman named Ann Higgins, belonging to Jamaica, obtained £350 (currency) damages against a man of the name of Rutherford, for an action of trespass. The circumstances of the case, which shew what injustice may be committed on a person of colour in that island, were as follows:—

Ann Higgins, the plaintiff, was born free, the daughter of a free woman named Passage Fort Nanny. Rutherford, the defendant, seized Ann Higgins and her three children, kept them in a state of slavery, though they were removed two descents at least from any servile stock, transported her to Honduras, and there sold her as a slave; by some means Ann Higgins was enabled to return to Jamaica, and there obtained judgment against her oppressor. Mr. Rutherford nevertheless detained the children in slavery, and near six years elapsed before this distressed mother could recover them out of his hands.[1]

Stephen's Defence of the Register Bill, 1816, p. 47.

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shall be paid to the use of the informer and prosecutor, 13*l.* sterling for every man, 10*l.* for every woman, and 3*l.* for every child under fourteen, that shall be delivered over in good health to the officer appointed to receive the same; and also the like sums to the use of the governor or commander-in-chief of any colony wherein such seizures shall have been made. But in cases of any such seizures made at sea by his Majesty's vessels of war, the commander or officer who shall seize shall receive for every man so condemned, 20*l.* sterling, for every woman 15*l.*, and for every child under fourteen years of age, 5*l.*; subject nevertheless to such distribution of the said bounties as his Majesty shall direct by any order in council made for that purpose. The officers appointed to provide for the natives of Africa are to grant certificates in favour of the seizing officer, addressed to the commissioners of the treasury, who will direct payment to be made to the lawful holders thereof.

Section 12. makes it felony, without benefit of clergy, to forge any such certificate with intent to defraud the King, or any other person.

Section 13. provides for the recovery of forfeitures under this act in the same manner as is provided by the 17th section of the foreign slave trade act, by a general reference to the statute 4 Geo. III. chap. 15.

Section 14. All vessels, or natives of Africa dealt with as slaves, and all other effects forfeited for any offence committed against this act, may be seized by any officer of the customs or excise, or by the officers of any of his Majesty's vessels of war, who, in prosecuting, shall have the benefit of the act of the 4th of his Majesty.

Section 15. All offences against this act may be tried as if committed in the county of Middlesex.

Section 16. His Majesty may make regulations for the future disposal of Negroes bound apprentices under this act, after the term of their apprenticeship shall have expired.

Section 17. The provisions of any act for enlisting for any limited period, &c. shall not extend to Negroes serving in his Majesty's forces.

Section 18. If any action be commenced against any person for any thing done in pursuance of this act, the defendant may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence, and if the same shall appear to have been done in pursuance and by the authority of this act, the jury shall find for the defendant; and if the plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his action after the defendant has appeared, or if judgment shall be given against the plaintiff, the defendant shall recover treble costs.

African Institution, 4 *Report*, pp. 44. 51. 53. 55, 56, 57. 60.

[1] From Bolinbroke's voyage to Demerary, p. 114.

"The Europeans are a conceited people; they read, and they fancy that every thing can be known from books."

"They listen to metaphysical politicians, and think they can direct the tropical planter how best to cultivate, and the assembly of Jamaica how best to legislate."

" In the island of Jamaica there are many Jews; these, as it is natural to suppose, are not friendly to the cause of Jesus Christ. Many of their slaves, however, (Dr. Coke says) found means occasionally to attend our (the Methodists) chapel, and several, in the beginning of the year 1807, were convinced of sin and converted to God. This exasperated their proprietors in no small degree, and induced them to threaten their slaves, that unless they desisted from attending the preaching, they should be confined to the workhouse, and undergo a flogging. These threats were not unfrequently carried into execution." " I saw a woman, a few days since," says Mr. Gilgrass, " who told me, that her master had laid her down, and sentenced her to receive thirty-nine lashes if she persisted in going to the chapel, she replied, ' Massa, me must pray,' she then received nine strokes with peculiar severity, when the blood ran in streams from her back. A gentleman, pitying her situation, inquired into the nature of her offence, and learning that it was only for worshipping God, interposed and instantly released her. A young black man on the day he was baptized received thirty-nine lashes for a similar offence; indeed he stood charged with no other crime than that of praying. But, glory be to God, the more Pharaoh afflicts, the more the people prosper and multiply."

On the 26th of April, they preached in their new chapel, in Morant bay, for the first time. On the 26th of May, the Methodists report their numbers to be 1078, in society.

On the 15th of June, 1807, the common council of Kingston in Jamaica, issued the following ordinance—

" For preventing the profanation of religious rites and false worshipping of God, under the pretence of preaching and teaching, by illiterate, ignorant, and ill-disposed persons, and of the mischief consequent thereupon.

" Whereas it is not only highly incumbent upon, but the first and most serious duty of all magistrates and bodies politic, to uphold and encourage the due, proper, and solemn exercise of religion and worshipping of God: and whereas nothing can tend more to bring true devotion and the practice of religion into disrepute, than the pretended preaching, teaching, and expounding the word of God as contained in the Holy Scriptures, by uneducated, illiterate, and ignorant persons and false enthusiasts: and whereas the practice of such pretended preaching, teaching, and expounding the Holy Scriptures, by such descriptions of persons as aforesaid, to large numbers of persons of colour and Negroes of free condition, and slaves, assembled together in houses, negro-houses,

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 9, 10, 11. 15.

And Mr. Henry Bolinbroke, of Norwich, deputy vendue master at Surinam, concludes the paragraph by asserting, that " the slave trade is a universal benefit."

The reader will probably be surprised when he is told that this was published in 1807.

huts, and the yards thereunto appertaining, and also in divers lands and by-places within this city and parish, hath increased to an alarming degree; and during such pretended preaching, teaching, and expounding, and pretended worshipping of God, divers indecent and unseemly noises, gesticulations, and behaviour often are used and take place, to the great annoyance of the neighbours, and to the disrepute of religion itself, and also to the detriment of slaves, who are induced, by divers artifices and pretences of the said pretended preachers, to attend the said irregular assemblies, whereby such slaves are continually kept and detained from their owners' necessary business and employ, and in some cases the minds of slaves have been so operated upon and affected by the fanaticism of the aforesaid description of persons as to become actually deranged; be it therefore enacted and ordained by the common council of the city and parish of Kingston (the mayor, aldermen, and commoncouncilmen of the city and parish, or a competent and legal number or quorum of them, being in common council assembled,) and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, that from and after the first day of July next, no person, not being duly authorized, qualified, and permitted, as is directed by the laws of this island and of Great Britain, and in the place mentioned in such licence, shall, under pretence of being a minister of religion of any sect or denomination, or of being a teacher or expounder of the Gospel or other parts of the Holy Scriptures, presume to preach or teach, or offer up public prayer, or sing psalms, in any meeting or assembly of Negroes, or persons of colour, within this city and parish; and in case any person shall in any way offend herein, every such person, if a white person, shall suffer such punishment by fine, not exceeding £100, or by imprisonment in the workhouse, for a space not exceeding six months, or by whipping, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes, or both, as shall be in those cases respectively adjudged.

"And be it further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, that no person or persons whatsoever, being so as aforesaid licensed or permitted, shall use public worship in any of the said places within this city and parish which may be so licensed as aforesaid, earlier than the hour of six o'clock in the morning, or later than sunset in the evening, under the penalty of such punishment by fine, not exceeding £100, or by imprisonment in the common gaol, not exceeding the space of three months, or both, as shall be in that respect adjudged.

"And be it further enacted and ordained by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the said first day of July next, in case any owner, possessor, or occupier of any house, out-house, yard, or other place whatsoever, shall permit any meeting of any description of persons for the purpose of hearing or joining in any

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 15.

such pretended teaching, preaching, praying, or singing of psalms as aforesaid, such owner, occupier, or possessor, being a white person, shall incur and suffer such punishment by fine, not exceeding £100, or by imprisonment in the common gaol, not exceeding three months, or both; or if a person of colour, or black, of free condition, by fine, not exceeding £100, or by confinement in the workhouse for any space not exceeding three months, or both; or, if a slave, by confinement and hard labour in the workhouse, for any space not exceeding six weeks, or by whipping, not exceeding thirty-nine stripes, or both, as shall in these respective cases be adjudged.

" Passed the common council this 15th day of June 1807.

"Thomas Dennis, city clerk." "DANIEL MOORE, Recorder."

Dr. Coke says, " Nothing could be more effectual than the clauses of this act for preventing the slaves from hearing the Gospel on six days out of the seven. Before the sun rises, they are compelled to be at their labour; and this they are not permitted to quit until it sets. The law, therefore, leaves them free to attend preaching during those hours that they are confined, and forbids them from attending when they have an opportunity."

The French and Spanish priests were permitted to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences, without any legal molestation. Free-born British subjects laboured exclusively under the interdiction.

On the 11th of November, the house of assembly passed an act for the protection, subsisting, clothing, and for the better order and government of slaves, and for other purposes.

The following extract will prove its purport: — " Whereas it is for the public good, that all the laws respecting the order and government of slaves should be consolidated and brought into one law: may it please your Majesty that it may be enacted; be it therefore enacted by the lieutenant-governor, council, and assembly of this your Majesty's island of Jamaica, that from and after the commencing of this act, all masters and mistresses, owners, or, in their absence, overseers of slaves, shall, as much as in them lies, endeavour the instruction of their slaves in the principles of the Christian religion, whereby to facilitate their conversion; and shall do their utmost endeavours to fit them for baptism, and as soon as conveniently they can, cause to be baptized all such as they can make sensible of a Deity and the Christian faith: Provided nevertheless, that the instruction of such slaves shall be confined to the doctrines of the established church in this island, and that no Methodist missionary, or other sectary or preacher, shall presume to instruct our slaves, or to receive them into their houses, chapels, or conventicles, of any sort or description, under the penalty of £20 for every slave proved to have been there, and to be reco-

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 18, 19.

vered, in a summary manner, before any three justices of the peace; who, or the majority of whom, are hereby authorized and empowered to issue their warrant for recovery of the same; and, on refusal of payment, to commit the offender or offenders to the county gaol until payment of the said fine or fines, which shall be paid over to the churchwardens of the parish where the offence shall be committed, for the benefit of the poor of such parish."

"Nothing can be more evident than that the design of the legislature of Jamaica, in enacting this law, was to cut off all intercourse between the missionaries and the slaves, and thus defeat, by legal measures, the end for which the missionary establishment was instituted."

About the middle of November, Mr. Gilgrass and Mr. Knowlan, two of the Methodist missionaries, sent to some of the principal inhabitants who were dancing in the ball-room in the great square in Kingston, after twelve o'clock on a Saturday night, and ordered them to disperse and comply with the established law of the 15th of June; the company considered themselves insulted, and refused to obey. The zealous missionaries applied to the town-guard, and insisted on their going to disperse them; Mr. Gilgrass accompanied the guard, and soon obliged the assembly to break up. This was an insult not very likely to be forgiven. Accordingly, on the evening of the 20th of November, the police officer and a magistrate, with a night guard, caught these missionaries singing a new psalm, at fifteen minutes after six. The police officer wished them to be carried "to the cage;" but some of the company became verbal sureties for them, promising that they should be at the court-house the next morning at ten o'clock. This, however, was not required; but on the 26th they were summoned before the magistrates, and on the 30th the mayor sentenced Mr. Gilgrass to be confined in the common gaol one calendar month, for a breach of the late ordinance. After he had been confined a fortnight, the rest of his punishment was remitted.

Immediately upon his release, Mr. Gilgrass ventured to open the chapel again, and appointed door-keepers to ascertain the slaves as accurately as possible. "Frequently" Dr. Coke says, "the slaves crowded about the doors, which the edict forbade them to enter, with looks of the most expressive sorrow, and words of the most penetrating eloquence. We do not envy the feelings of that man who could hear unmoved these pathetic expressions, accompanied with tears,— "Massa, me no go to heaven now." "White man keep black man from serving God." "Black man got no soul, nobody teach black man now." In less than a fortnight the chapel was closed again, the corporation having given orders to the police officers, to take every Methodist to the "cage" that he could discover preaching (one or more) either by day or night.

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 13. 20, 21, 22. 25.

The number of Methodists in the West India islands "amounted to 261 Whites and 12,898 coloured people and Blacks; in all 13,159, besides, perhaps, 100,000 who regularly attended the preaching of the Gospel."

The number in society at St. Bartholomew's did not exceed 100.

In the Virgin Islands, in August, there were 1808 in society, of whom only thirty-three were Whites.

In the Bahamas their numbers were reduced from 254 to 170; but the cause was visible, the islands had been desolated by some hurricanes, and the inhabitants had been compelled to shift from island to island to plant the future necessaries of life, to counteract the desolation which the late storms had occasioned, so that they were dispersed.

The number of Methodists in Barbadoes continued to decrease. This year they were twenty-three Whites, and thirteen coloured people and Blacks.

The Jamaica report returns the number of slaves to have been 319,351. Negroes imported, 16,263; exported, 336.

Distress and ruin have been the ordinary lot of sugar planters in the British colonies. The house of assembly of Jamaica report this year, that "the sugar estates lately thrown up, brought to sale, and now in the court of chancery in this island, and in England, amount to about one-fourth of the whole number in the colony." The committee "anticipate very shortly the bankruptcy of a much larger part of the community, and in the course of a few years that of the whole class of sugar-planters," with few exceptions.

The exports from Demerary, between the 5th of January 1806 and the 5th of January 1807, employed 200 vessels, and consisted of 19,337 hogsheads, 474 tierces, 801 barrels of sugar; 4722 puncheons and 17 hogsheads of rum; 23,604 bales and 2 bags of cotton; 12,390,102 pounds of coffee (this is probably a misprint for two millions); 1694 casks of molasses.

On the 1st of July the boats of his Majesty's ship Jason, Captain Cochrane, and Maria, schooner, were sent, under the command of Lieutenant Kerr, to silence a fort in Porto Rico. The boats got aground some way off, and all the ammunition was spoiled. The men were up to their middle in the water; in this situation several were killed or wounded. Lieutenant Kerr pushed on and stormed the fort, which the Spaniards abandoned immediately; it contained one twenty-four pounder, three twelves, and one eight-pounder; but in turning the guns upon the flying enemy, some loose powder caught fire and blew up the magazine. Out of forty men on this expedition, twenty were killed and wounded.

Coke's West Indies, vol. i. p. 213.; vol. ii. p. 162.; vol. iii. pp. 88. 136. 219.
Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves. Appendix.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 475.
Bolinbroke's Voyage to Demerary, p. 80.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 37.

Death of Captain Buller.

" His Majesty's brig Superieure, Barbadoes bearing
W. 120 leagues, 17th October, 1807.

" Sir,

" The unfortunate death of Captain Buller, imposes the duty on me of informing you of the capture of the French schooner privateer La Jopo l'Œil, after an action of an hour and a quarter, in the early part of which Captain Buller received a musket-ball through the head, while in the act of attempting to board, and expired immediately. His Majesty's brig Hawke was in sight during the chase, and joined an hour after the action had ceased. To the officers and crew of the Superieure, I feel much indebted for their support; particularly Mr. Hawkey the master, and Mr. Gummage midshipman.

" La Jopo l'Œil is a remarkably fine vessel, pierced for fourteen guns, had only six eighteen-pounders mounted, and one on a traversing carriage, manned with ninety-five men; out thirty-two days from Point à Petre, Guadaloupe, and had not made any capture. " I have the, &c.

" J. G. Bird, Lieutenant."

" Superieure, four killed, eight wounded. The French fifteen killed and nineteen wounded."

It would be great injustice not to record Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane's honourable testimony of the conduct of Mr. William Rogers, of the Windsor Castle packet.

" Sir, " Belle Isle, Tortola Roads, November 7, 1807.

" The enclosed letter, which I have just received from Mr. Rogers, the master of the Windsor Castle packet, gives an account of the capture of a French privateer. It is an instance of bravery and persevering courage, combined with great presence of mind, as was scarcely ever exceeded. He has shewn such ability in defending one of his Majesty's packets, that I hope it will secure him the command of the first which is vacant.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" Alexander Cochrane."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xviii. pp. 511, 512.

Captain J. P. Stewart, in his Majesty's sloop Port D'Espagne, on the 18th of August, captured the Maria, Spanish privateer, of one long eighteen-pounder and seventy-four men.

" His Majesty's sloop Port d'Espagne,
at sea, September 12, 1807.

" Sir,

" I have the honour to inform you, the boats of this ship, under the command of Lieutenants Cotgrave and Hale, this morning captured El Rosario, Spanish schooner privateer, armed with one gun; her crew consisted of thirty-four men, who made their escape by reaching the shore. On the 20th of last month, the boats of the Balahow, in conjunction with an armed prize from this ship, destroyed a small privateer in the bay of Saint Juan.

" I have the honour to be,

" J. P. Stewart.

" Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, K.B."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. p. 514.

" Sir, " Windsor Castle packet, Carlisle Bay, 3d October, 1807.

" Having on my passage from England in the Windsor Castle packet, with the mails for Barbadoes and the leeward islands, been attacked by a French privateer within the limits of your station, I take the liberty of acquainting you, that we were fortunate enough to capture her after a severe action, and arrived safe with her in this bay. She was seen on the morning of the 1st of October in lat. 13° 53′ N. and long. 58° 1′ W., and about half past eight made all sail in chase of the packet, when every exertion was made to get away from her; but finding it impossible, preparations were made to make the best resistance we could, and arrangements to sink the mails if necessary. At noon the schooner got within gun-shot, hoisted French colours, and began her fire, which was returned with stern chase guns; this was continued until she came near, when we were hailed in very opprobrious terms and desired to strike the colours. On refusing to do so she ran alongside, grappled the packet, and attempted to board, which we repulsed by the pikes with the loss of eight or ten men on the part of the enemy, when the schooner attempted to get clear by cutting the grapplings; but the main yard being locked in her rigging, she was prevented. Great exertions were continued on both sides, and I had occasion to station a part of the crew in charge of the mails, to shift them as circumstances required, or to cut them away in case of our failure. About three we got one of our six-pounders to bear upon the schooner, loaded with double grape cannisters and one hundred musket-balls, which was fired at the moment the enemy was making a second desperate attempt to board, and killed and wounded a great number.

" Soon after this I embraced the opportunity of boarding in turn with five men, and succeeded in driving the enemy from his quarters, and about four o'clock the schooner was completely in our possession. She is named the Jeune Richard, mounting six six-pounders, and one long eighteen-pounder, having on board at the commencement of the action ninety-two men, of which twenty-one were found dead upon her decks, and thirty-three wounded. From the very superior numbers of the enemy still remaining, it was necessary to use every precaution in securing the prisoners. I was obliged to order them up from below one by one, and place them in their own irons as they came up, as three of our little crew were killed, and ten severely wounded; the mizen mast and main yard carried away, and the rigging fore and aft much damaged. It is my duty to mention to you, Sir, that the crew of the packet, amounting at first to only twenty-eight men and boys, supported me with the greatest gallantry during the whole of this arduous contest.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" W. Rogers, acting Captain."

" To the Hon. Sir Alex. Cochrane, K. B., &c."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xviii. p. 512.

On the 4th of November, general reprisals were ordered to be granted "against the ships, goods, and subjects of the King of Denmark;" and upon the same day, general reprisals were ordered to be granted "against the ships, goods, and inhabitants of the territories and ports of Tuscany, the kingdom of Naples, the port and territory of Ragusa, and those of the islands lately composing the republic of the Seven Islands, and all other ports and places in the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas, which are occupied by the arms of France or her allies."

The house of assembly at Jamaica passed, nem. con., a vote of thanks to Vice-Admiral Dacres for his exertions in protecting their commerce, on the 26th November.

On the 18th of December, general reprisals were ordered to be granted "against the ships, goods, and subjects of the Emperor of all the Russias."

Upon the 13th of December, the Hon. Captain Warwick Lake, of his Majesty's sloop Recruit, ordered a seaman belonging to her of the name of Robert Jeffery to be landed upon the desert island of Sombrero, and left there. The man's life was fortunately saved by an American vessel taking him off the island.

In February, 1810, Captain Lake was tried at Portsmouth for this atrocious action, and sentenced to be dismissed from his Majesty's service.

Capture of the Danish Islands. General Bowyer's Dispatches to Viscount Castlereagh.

"My Lord, "Santa Cruz, December 27th, 1807.

"Being in a state of preparation and readiness to move a sufficient force against the Danish islands in those seas, in consequence of your lordship's dispatch of the 5th of September, no time was lost (after the arrival of his Majesty's final commands, signified to me by Lord Hawkesbury's letter of November 8th, in your lordship's absence, by the Fawn sloop of war, which arrived early on Tuesday morning the 15th instant at Barbadoes,) in embarking the troops at Barbadoes, on board the men-of-war appointed to receive them by Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, who immediately dispatched others to the islands to leeward to take on board such as were under orders in each of them, with directions to proceed to the general rendezvous, the whole of which, except 100 rank and file of the 90th regiment from St. Vincent's, joined the admiral before or soon after our arrival off the island of St. Thomas, on the 21st instant. It was then thought proper to send a summons to Governor Von Scholten in charge of Brigadier-General Shipley and Captain Fahie, commanding his Majesty's ship Ethalion, to surrender the islands of St. Thomas, St. John, and their depen-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xviii. pp. 417. 495.; vol. xix. p. 190.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. ii. p. 27.; 1810, p. 22.

dencies, to His Britannic Majesty, which he did the next day, on terms agreed upon between him and Major-General Maitland and Captain Pickmore, of his Majesty's ship Ramillies, which were afterwards approved of and ratified by Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane and myself, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, and hope they will meet with his Majesty's approbation. On the 23d, in the evening, after leaving a garrison of 300 men of the 70th regiment, with an officer and a detachment of the royal artillery, under the command of Brigadier-General M'Lean, whom I have also directed to assume the civil government of the same, until his Majesty's pleasure is signified thereon, we proceeded to Santa Cruz, the admiral having previously sent his Majesty's ship Ethalion, with Brigadier-General Shipley and Captain Fahie, to summon that island, who returned the next morning, the 24th, with a letter from the governor, offering to surrender it to his Majesty, provided we would allow three Danish officers to view on board the ships the number of troops brought against it, which we permitted, that his excellency's military honour might thereby not be reflected on. These officers having made their report to their governor, returned early next morning, the 25th, to the flag-ship, with a message that the governor was willing to treat for the surrender of the island, when Major-General Maitland and Captain Pickmore were again sent on shore to settle the terms of capitulation, a copy of which I also transmit; which being approved of by the admiral and myself, troops were landed, and the forts and batteries taken possession of in the name of his Majesty, the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, a royal salute being fired on the British colours being hoisted. I should be ungrateful in the extreme, did I not state to your lordship the great and many obligations I conceive myself, the officers and soldiers, to be under to Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, the captains and officers of the royal navy, who have universally afforded us every comfortable accommodation in their power; and, I am sure, much to their own inconvenience. I am convinced, that had it been necessary to have called for the exertions of the sea and land forces employed upon this expedition, that they would have added another laurel to the many already acquired by British valour and discipline. Copies of the two letters of summons, with the answers of the respective governors, are herewith transmitted, together with a return of ordnance and ordnance stores taken possession of, both at St. Thomas's and Santa Cruz. This dispatch will be presented to your lordship by Captain Berkley, of the 18th infantry, an intelligent officer, who will answer any questions you may be pleased to ask him, and I beg leave to recommend him to your lordship's notice. Captain Berkley is my first aid-de-camp. I have, &c.

" HENRY BOWYER,
" General and Commander of the forces."

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. ii. p. 27.

“ Sir, “ His Majesty’s ship Belle Isle, off St. Thomas, 20th Dec. 1807.

“ We, His Britannic Majesty’s commanders-in-chief by land and by sea in these colonies, in obedience to our Sovereign’s order, do summon you to surrender the island of St. Thomas and its dependencies to the forces under our command. We are well aware, Sir, that your bravery and loyalty to your sovereign may induce you to make resistance, which can avail but little against the forces now opposed to you; we therefore trust, to prevent the effusion of blood, and probably the confiscation of all property, that you will accept of such terms as may be proper for us to grant, and honourable for you to receive. We think it necessary to add, that we will certainly resent and retaliate for any injurious treatment that may be offered to any one of our nation under your government, by forcing them to take up arms against their lawful sovereign.

“ We have the honour to be,

“ Henry Bowyer,
“ General and Commander of the forces.
“ Alex. Cochrane,
“ Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief
of the naval forces.”

“ To his Excellency Colonel Von Scholten,
Commandant, &c. St. Thomas.”

Answer.

“ Sirs, St. Thomas, 21st December, 1807.

“ It cannot be presumed, under any circumstances, that I can think of capitulating until I am vanquished, or, at least, until I know the strength of the sea and land forces by which I am menaced to be attacked; I therefore send out three officers, in order to obtain this information, and your excellencies’ permission to count the troops. The gentlemen which your excellencies have sent on shore have given me their word of honour that no hostilities of any kind shall be committed before my officers are again landed at St. Thomas, and then I shall immediately acquaint your excellencies of my determination, through any signal which may be agreed upon on board.

“ If I should be induced to wish to capitulate, I request that persons may be sent on shore for the purpose, with full authority to sign a capitulation on the basis of the one concluded in 1801, and with such alterations as circumstances may require.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.

“ W. V. Scholten.

“ To their Excellencies the Commanders-in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty’s naval and land forces off St. Thomas.”

Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. pp. 157, 158.

"Sir, "His Majesty's ship Belle Isle, off St. Thomas, 22d Dec. 1807.

"The island of St. Thomas and its dependencies having been summoned and in consequence surrendered to His Britannic Majesty's forces by land and by sea in these colonies, we, the commanders thereof, in obedience to our Sovereign's order, do likewise summon you to surrender the island of Santa Croix and its dependencies. We offer, Sir, for your acceptance such terms as will be honourable for you to receive, and such as may be proper for us to grant; being desirous to prevent the unavailing effusion of blood, and probably the confiscation of all property, as we are well aware that any resistance on your part to the forces at present under our command could not be effectual. It is necessary we should add, that we will certainly resent any injurious treatment unjustly offered to any of our nation now under your government, by forcing them to take up arms against their lawful Sovereign, or by confiscating any part of their property. Brigadier-General Shipley and Captain Fahie, of the frigate Ethalion, will have the honour to deliver this and to wait for an answer.

"We have the honour to be, &c.

"Henry Bowyer,
"General and Commander of the forces.

"Alex. Cochrane,
"Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief
of the naval forces."

"To His Excellency Governor Lillienschiold, &c.
Santa Croix."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 160.

Captain Matson, of his Majesty's ship Venus, on the 16th of January, to windward of Barbadoes, captured the Determinée brig, of fourteen guns and 108 men, after a chase of sixteen hours.

Captain Inglefield, in his Majesty's sloop Hunter, off Jamaica, on the 25th of January, captured the Isabella, Spanish privateer, of three guns and sixty-four men.

Captain Pigot, in his Majesty's ship Circe, off Barbadoes, on the 5th of April, captured L'Austerlitz, French privateer, of eighteen six-pounders and 125 men, after a chase of eighteen hours. The Circe outcarried her. The L'Austerlitz sprung some of her spars, or she would have escaped by superior sailing.

Lieutenant Fitton, in his Majesty's schooner Pitt, off Aruba, on the 13th of April, captured the French privateer Fou Fou, of one gun and forty-three men, from St. Domingo.

Captain Rorie, in his Majesty's brig Morne Fortunée, on the 8th of July, drove on shore and destroyed the Spanish schooner Babillon, of two guns and forty-five men, near Point Tunacas.

Captain Ballard, in his Majesty's ship Blonde, on the 15th of August, captured La Dame Villaret, French privateer, belonging to Martinico, of five guns and sixty-nine men; and the next day, the same officer captured L'Hortense (late Eclair,) of eight guns and ninety men, belonging to the same island

Captain Inglefield, in his Majesty's ship Bacchante, off Jamaica, on the 13th of September, captured the Amor de la Patria, Spanish privateer, of three guns and sixty-three men.

Lieutenant Carr, in his Majesty's gun-brig Attentive, off Grenada, captured the Spanish privateer Neustra Senora del Carmen, of two guns and sixty-three men.

Captain V. V. Ballard, in his Majesty's ship Blonde, off Barbadoes, captured L'Hirondelle, French privateer, of eight guns and eighty-four men, the 14th of

Answer.

"GENTLEMEN, "St. Croix Government-house, 22d December, 1807.

"In answer to your summons of the island of St. Croix, which has been transmitted to me by Brigadier-General Shipley and Captain Fahie, I have the honour to reply, that before I can enter into any discussion on the subject, I must demand permission to send on board His Britannic Majesty's ships three of my officers, Major Kranse, Captain Holm, and Lieutenant Lohse, in order to ascertain the extent of the force employed against the island under my government.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"LILLIENSCHIOLD."

"To their Excellencies General Bowyer
and Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane."

1808.

Vice Admiral Dacres transmitted to the admiralty the following letters from Lieutenant Campbell.

"SIR, "His Majesty's schooner, Decouverte, Blue-hole Bay,
St. Domingo, February 8th, 1808.

"I beg leave to acquaint you, that at one P. M. yesterday, the 7th instant, when running down between Altovela and the Main, I discovered three sail in this bay, which I soon found to be two schooners (enemy's cruisers), and an English ship, their prize. One of the former made her escape to windward; after a running fire for a considerable time, I drove the other and the ship on shore. The hopes of recovering the ship induced me to anchor all night, and sound the bay, for the purpose of getting near her in the morning, which I accomplished within musket-shot; when I found her in possession of the enemy, covered by small-arm men from the shore. After considerable firing from the Decouverte, we drove the enemy out of the ship, and by a flag of truce I demanded her and whatever

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 345.

September; and on the 23d of September, the same ship captured the Duquesne, of seventeen guns and 123 men, belonging to Guadaloupe, formerly his Majesty's schooner Netley; and on the 14th of October, the same officer captured the Alert privateer, of twenty guns and 149 men, from Cayenne.

Captain Coghlan, in his Majesty's brig Elk, near the Catouche Bank, on the 7th of November, captured the Spanish letter of marque Posta de Caraccas, with 24,000 dollars on board.

Captain P. J. Douglas, in his Majesty's sloop Reindeer, off Tiburon, on the 21st of December, captured the French privateer Experiment, of two guns and forty men.

Lieutenant Boyd, in the Gracieuse schooner, off Cape Antonio, on the 27th of December, captured the Juliana, Spanish privateer, of five guns and eighty-three men.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xvii. pp. 335. 345. 438.; vol. xviii. pp. 428. 432. 512.; vol. xix. pp. 77. 169. 255.

prisoners might be on board the schooner, but was refused. Finding from circumstances it impossible to get her off, I directed Mr. M'Intire, master of the Decouverte, with a detachment of small-arm men, to set her, if possible, on fire, a service which he performed in a most handsome manner, under a very heavy fire from the enemy; the privateer should have shared the same fate had we water to get near her, but she is perfectly lost, having bilged on the rocks; the ship was the Matilda, of Halifax, bound to Jamaica. "I have the honour to be, &c.

(signed) "COLIN CAMPBELL."

"Vice Admiral Dacres, &c."

"His Majesty's schooner Decouverte,
off St. Domingo, Feb. 9th, 1808.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to inform you, that I, this morning at daylight, discovered a schooner in Bottomless Cove, and, after a long chase, came up with her at three P. M., when I found her to be an enemy's cruiser. At half past three we commenced action with her, which continued at half pistol-shot from her, for forty-five minutes, when she struck to his Majesty's schooner under my command. I find her to be La Dorade from St. Domingo, commanded by Monsieur Netly, mounting a long eighteen-pounder, two nines, and seventy-two men. The enemy's loss has been considerable; they left us the distressing duty of committing seven of them to the deep after the action, and about the same number, I find, were thrown over during it; their loss appears to have been about fourteen killed and three wounded. I am sorry to be under the necessity of annexing a list of wounded belonging to the Decouverte, most of them, I fear, dangerously; but when I consider the obstinate resistance of the enemy, I think we are, on the whole, fortunate. Three of our guns were dismounted the second round, on the side we engaged, which gave the enemy a great advantage, as well as a superiority of force over us. I feel much satisfaction in the capture of this vessel, as from fast sailing, and the intrepidity of her crew, she might have done much mischief. I beg leave to express my highest approbation of the conduct of Mr. M'Intire, master of the Decouverte, on this occasion. Being sensible of my over-deficiency in writing briefly, I hope you will forgive my intruding so much on your time by such long letters.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

(signed) "COLIN CAMPBELL."

"To Vice Admiral Dacres, &c."

"His Majesty's ship Meleager, off St. Jago de Cuba,
9th February, 1808.

"SIR,

"I beg leave to inform you, that last night, the barge, cutter, and jolly-boat, with forty-one men, under the command of Lieutenant Tupman, with Lieutenant Swinburn, and Lieutenant Denne, of the

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. pp. 345, 346.

royal marines, boarded, in a very gallant manner, and captured, without loss, Le Renard, French felucca-rigged privateer, armed with one long six-pounder, a large proportion of muskets, and forty-seven men, eighteen of whom jumped overboard, and swam for the shore. She was perfectly prepared, expecting to be attacked by the boats of a man-of-war brig that chased her in the day. Le Renard sails very fast; had been twenty-seven days at sea, and, I am happy to say, without making a capture.

“ I have the honour to be, &c.
(signed) “ J. Broughton, Captain.”
“ Vice-Admiral Dacres, &c.”

Admiral Duckworth, in chase of a French squadron, arrived off Martinico on the 15th of February; was at St. Kitt's on the 18th and 19th of the same month; ran down the islands as far as St. Domingo, then stood for America; was off the Chesapeake on the 11th of March; and returned to Plymouth on the 18th of April.

Admiral Cochrane's Report of the Capture of Mariegalante.

“ Sir, “ His Majesty's ship Belleisle, 12th March, 1808.

“ I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter from Captain Selby, of his Majesty's ship Cerberus, commanding the blockading squadron off Point-à-Petre, Guadaloupe; who, finding the total impossibility of preventing the enemy's privateers and their prizes from gaining that port, while they continued in possession of Mariegalante, as they constantly took shelter under the batteries of that island, from whence they watched a favourable opportunity to run over, he came to the resolution of attempting the surprise of Grand Bourg, the principal town; in which the detachment sent on this service, under the command of Captain Pigot, of the Circe, com-

Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. pp. 332. 428.

Captain P. J. Douglas, in his Majesty's sloop Reindeer, off Point Picolet, on the 25th Jan., captured the French privateer Lyonnaise, of twelve guns and eighty-five men. January 28th, the same officer captured another of three guns, between Tortudas and the main; the men escaped on shore.

Captain Broughton, in the Meleager, off St. Jago, on the 19th of February, captured the Antelope, Spanish schooner, of five guns and sixty-two men. She had thrown four guns overboard in the chase.

Captain T. E. Symonds, in his Majesty's sloop Tweed, on the 29th February, captured the Spanish letter of marque Santissima Trinidad, of four guns and twenty men.

Captain J. J. Rorie, in his Majesty's brig Morne Fortunée, off the Pedro shoals, March 10th, captured the Spanish letter of marque Santo Christo, of one long twelve-pounder and fifteen men.

Captain T. E. Symonds, of his Majesty's sloop Tweed, off Jamaica, on March the 16th, captured the French privateer schooner L'Aventure, of three guns and fifty-two men.

Captain W. H. Sherriff, in his Majesty's ship Lily, off Deseada, on the 21st of April, captured the Jean Jacques, French letter of marque, of six guns, which ran to Deseada for protection, not knowing it was in possession of the English.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. pp. 256. 346. 430. 511.

pletely succeeded, whose report is also enclosed. The manner in which this service was planned, and the promptitude with which it was effected, reflects the highest credit on Captain Selby, the other captains, officers, and men employed therein.

"I have the honour, &c.

"ALEX. COCHRANE."

Captain Selby's Report of the Capture of Mariegalante. [1]

"SIR, "Cerberus, off Mariegalante, March 3d.

"I beg to acquaint you of the surrender of the island of Mariegalante to his Majesty's arms.

"Finding the island afforded a shelter for the enemy's privateers with their captured vessels, and that it interfered considerably with the blockade of Guadaloupe, I considered it expedient to attack it; whereupon I gave Captain Pigot the command of about 200 seamen and marines from the ships named in the margin [2], and on the 2d instant we weighed from Petit Terre, and, a little after daylight, effected a landing about two miles from the town, with little opposition; and soon after the island surrendered at discretion; and the commandant, with the national military force, are prisoners of war. I find it a very valuable island, in the highest state of cultivation, and a large quantity of colonial produce in the stores. I have disembarked the marines, and garrisoned the place, and shall remain with the force under my orders for your further directions.

I herewith inclose Captain Pigot's letter to me on the occasion, (wherein I am happy to observe the high terms in which he speaks of Captain Bowen, and the officers and men under his command,) together with a list of the arms and military stores taken on the island.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"To the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, K. B., "W. SELBY."
Commander-in-Chief."

"SIR, "His Majesty's ship Circe, off Mariegalante, 2d March, 1808.

"You having done me the honour to give me the command of the debarkation of the seamen and marines of his Majesty's ships Cerberus, Circe, and Camilla, on the island of Mariegalante, I have the pleasure to inform you it was effected without loss, and the only opposition a few shot from a small battery to the northward; and that, notwithstanding the badness of the roads through cane patches, I have infinite satisfaction in adding, that the good order and cool conduct of both seamen and marines merit the highest praise. From our early appearance at the end of the

Edinburgh Annual Register, vol. ii. p. 87.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 429.

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[1] Mariegalante contains a great many grottoes, and has several ponds and rivers.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 333.

[2] Cerberus, Circe, and Camilla.

town, we found but little preparations for resistance, except a field-piece, placed in the centre of the principal street, on approaching which a flag of truce was sent, and the island surrendered at discretion.

I cannot close this without expressing the support I had in Captain Bowen, of his Majesty's ship Camilla, and all the officers employed on this service.

" I have the honour to be,

" To Captain Selby, " Hugh Pigot."
His Majesty's ship Cerberus."

On the 23d of August, seventeen boats with about 200 men pushed over (to Mariegalante) from Guadaloupe, landed near Grand Bourg, and proceeded to attack the battery. They were perceived by the Circe; twenty or thirty seamen immediately landed from her; got to the battery before the French, and compelled them to retreat: all their boats were seized, and they retired into the interior of the island.

General Beckwith's Dispatch.

" My Lord, " Barbadoes, September 14th.

" Intelligence having been received here on the 27th of last month, that the enemy had hazarded a landing in Mariegalante, with a detachment of regular troops from Guadaloupe, three companies of the 1st West India regiment, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Blackwall of the 4th West India regiment, proceeded from Barbadoes as expressed in my dispatch No. 17; were landed in Mariegalante on the 29th; attacked the French troops in conjunction with the French garrison on the 30th; and, after a series of operations in the fastnesses of the country, the enemy surrendered at discretion on the 3d instant. Colonel Gambriel abandoned his command the day before the surrender, and, it is imagined, escaped in a canoe to Guadaloupe. The detachment returned to Barbadoes on the 10th, having had three men wounded, one of whom is since dead. The perseverance and temper of the three companies was respectable, and the fatigue they underwent at this season of the year unusually great.

" George Beckwith, Lieutenant General."

" Four captains, eight lieutenants, 162 rank and file, and one staff, were taken prisoners."

Their capitulation was marked by a singular and fatal circumstance. Mr. Brown, a merchant of Dublin, had been taken prisoner by them, and was set at liberty that he might carry their

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. i. pp. 183. 188.; vol. ii. p. 228.

proposals to the English officer; in his joy he forgot to take a flag of truce, and when he approached one of our out-posts, running eagerly on, a black centinel shot him through the heart. He was a young man in the prime of life, of rare talents and generous feelings; one whom all who knew him will ever remember with affection and regret.

Admiral Cochrane's Letter to the Admiralty.

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Belleisle, off Mariegalante, 7th April.

" I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the copy of a letter from Captain Selby, of his Majesty's ship Cerberus, acquainting me with the capture of the island of Deseada, and of his having caused all the batteries thereon to be destroyed.

" The inhabitants have generally taken the oath of neutrality; I have not therefore left any force on the island, but only stationed a sloop of war and a brig there for its protection, and to prevent the enemy from throwing in a garrison from Guadaloupe.

" The neutrality of this island will afford us greater facilities in annoying the privateers and cutting off their prizes from getting into Point-à-Petre."

Captain Selby's Report of the Capture of Deseada.

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Cerberus, at Deseada, March 30th, 1808.

" I have the satisfaction to announce to you the capture of Deseada, by the force you did me the honour to place under my orders. On the 29th instant I weighed from Mariegalante with the Cerberus, Lily, Pelican, Express, Swinger, and Mosambique; and on the 30th, at half past three P. M., the boats, under the command of Captain Sherriff, of his Majesty's sloop Lily, with a detachment of seamen and marines from each vessel, under their respective commanders (who gallantly volunteered their services on the occasion), stood towards the shore, which was defended by a battery of two nine-pounders, completely commanding the narrow entrance of the harbour, together with the national troops and militia, amounting to about seventy men, who opened their fire upon the boats, when I found it necessary to anchor the squadron with springs on their cables, and commence a cannonading which soon silenced them, and at four o'clock the French flag was struck. The boats landed at half past four, hoisted the British flag, and the whole island surrendered without further opposition. I have the satisfac-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xix. p. 431.
Edinburgh Annual Register, vol. ii. p. 96.

tion to acquaint you that this capture has been effected without loss. The commandant, national officers, and troops, are made prisoners of war, and the militia have laid down their arms. I should not do justice to the merit of Captain Sherriff, was I not to express, in the highest terms, my entire approbation of his conduct, together with Captain Ward, and all the officers and men employed on this service. "I am, &c.

"To the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, K. B." "W. Selby."

"P. S. Undermentioned is a list of the ordnance and military stores found on the island. The whole of the great guns I have destroyed, as well as the batteries; and the small arms, and other military stores, I have taken off the island.

"Iron ordnance.—At the principal battery, three twenty-four-pounders and two nine-pounders. At the Grand Bourg, two nine-pounders and two dismounted six-pounders; fifty whole barrels of powder and fifty muskets.

"W. Selby."

In March, the Methodists' committee in London applied to the privy council in London, for a repeal of the act passed in Jamaica against the missionaries in November, 1807; but even in August the act had not arrived, and it was impossible for either his Majesty or the privy council to grant relief from the operation of an edict, the existence of which was officially doubtful.

In their petition to the King, which was dated the 13th of May, the Methodists state, that the Bishop of London had sent, a few years ago, a missionary to instruct the Negroes in Jamaica, he died of the yellow fever soon after his arrival, and no missionary who had been ordained by any bishop of the established church had been sent there since.

Upon the 26th of April, 1809, Lord Bathurst wrote to Dr. Coke, the Methodist, to inform him, that the act passed in Jamaica in November, 1807, "for the protection, subsisting, clothing, and for the better order and government of slaves, and for other purposes," was disallowed by his Majesty in council. This intelligence was immediately transmitted to all the Methodist societies throughout the United Kingdom and colonies, "that all might participate," Dr. Coke says, "in the common gratification, and be conscious of the conspicuous displays of that paternal affection, which has invariably marked the conduct of our most gracious Sovereign, towards all the subjects of his extensive empire. May the spirit as well as the letter of the laws be transmitted to generations which are yet unborn, and may those who feel their genial influence, perpetuate their loyalty to their Sovereign, and gratitude to their God."

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. pp. 26. 29. 32.

On Friday morning, the 30th of May, a mutiny broke out in Kingston, Jamaica, in the 2d West India regiment, under the command of Major Darley, stationed at Fort Augusta. The men were paraded on the beach about 300 yards from the glacis leading to Port Henderson. In the fort fifty-four recruits were left to be drilled by a black serjeant. The men on the beach had not been long under arms, before a terrible war whoop was heard, and the recruits rushed out near the left of the regiment. Adjutant Ellis rode towards them; was knocked off his horse with the butt end of some of their firelocks, and instantly bayonetted. Major Darley was also knocked off his horse, and mortally wounded. The officers now sent a serjeant for ammunition, and a fire was opened on the mutineers; fourteen of them were killed, five wounded, and twenty-four taken prisoners. The remainder fled to the bushes. The reason assigned by the prisoners for their conduct was, that they were too often drilled, and wanted to return to their own country. Ten of the prisoners were tried by a court martial, seven of whom were executed.

As no coroner's inquest was held upon the bodies, the legislature of the island, on their assembling, requested the Duke of Manchester, the governor, to cause to be laid before it copies of the military proceeding against the offenders. This request of the house of assembly being indicated by his grace to the commander-in-chief, Major-General Carmichael, that officer flatly refused compliance with it, and prohibited "all military persons from answering any questions that the legislative body might put to them respecting the late mutiny." Whereupon the house, forming a general committee on the state of the island, entered upon a string of resolutions, the purport of which was, to declare their powers analagous to those of the British parliament; and that of course it was their undoubted right to examine all papers, records, and persons, respecting any subject under investigation in that house; of which rights and privileges the conduct of Major-General Carmichael was a complete breach, and is declared to have "excited the greatest alarm, and in its consequences, to involve the tranquillity and safety of the colony." Mr. Speaker was then directed to issue his warrant requiring the attendance of Major-General Carmichael himself at the bar of the house. With this requisition, the commander-in-chief refused compliance, and his grace the governor declared his perfect agreement in the principle of such refusal. The consequence of this was that a motion was carried, nem. con. "that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to take Major-General Carmichael into custody of the serjeant-at-arms, for a contempt of that house." Other resolutions were likewise agreed upon: — 1st, reprehensive of the conduct of the governor in interfering in any matter, pending its agitation in the house of assembly; 2dly, declaring his grace's approbation of Major General

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808. vol ii. pp. 109. 111.; 1809, p. 36.

Carmichael's refusal to obey the speaker's requisition, a breach of privilege; and lastly, avowing that they will proceed to no other business, till reparation be made for this breach. Upon this, the bills that were already passed being confirmed, the session of the house was prorogued by the following speech from the governor:— "Gentlemen of the council, Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen of the assembly. The house of assembly having ordered the attendance of the commander of his Majesty's forces at their bar, and intending, as it appears to me, to enforce that order, a measure certainly novel, and giving rise to a question of the greatest magnitude, as it tends in fact to devolve the command of any British army in this island upon that house, I feel it incumbent upon me, however I lament any interruption to the harmony subsisting between the different branches of the legislature, to take such measures as shall bring so important a point before the highest authority, previous to any further proceedings. I do, therefore, in his Majesty's name, prorogue this general assembly until Tuesday, the 27th day of December next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly."

The market place, custom house, most of the houses in Church street, and several in other parts of the town at Montego Bay, were destroyed by fire.

Joseph Ram, a black man belonging to Morrice Hall estate in the island of Jamaica, died there in December, at the advanced age of one hundred and forty years. He perfectly remembered the Duke of Albemarle, who succeeded to the government of that island in 1687. His daughter Grace Martin, an inhabitant of Spanish Town, and upwards of eighty-five years of age, says he had a complete set of new teeth about twenty years before, which remained sound to the day of his death. His hair was quite grey. He retained his sight and memory well, and had all his senses perfect except that of smelling. He was stout and inclined to corpulence; was never sick but once, and all the physic he ever took was one dose of nut oil; he had twenty-six children by different women; his appetite was always good, and a few days previous to his death, he walked a distance of four miles; his dissolution was gradual and unattended by pain or sickness, it seemed the mere decay of nature.

The importation of slaves from Africa ceased to be legal upon the 1st of January.[1]

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. ii. p. 111.; 1809, p. 102.
Reasons for establishing a Registry of Slaves. London, 1815, p. 27.

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[1] *Abstract of an Order in Council of the 16th of March*, 1808.

The order appoints the collector of the customs, in any of his Majesty's colonies, being seats of courts of vice admiralty, to receive and provide for all Negroes who have been condemned to the crown, until they can be disposed of according to the acts of parliament.

He is to keep an exact list and description of every such Negro, and if the African

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The excess of deaths over births among the slaves in Jamaica, in the seven years next preceding the abolition, was 41,772.

The Jamaica report gives the number of slaves for this year, 323,827. Negroes imported, 3364; Negroes exported, 309.

Stephens' Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, 1816, pp. 139. 207.

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name is not sufficiently clear, he is to substitute some other, by which such Negro shall be afterwards called, until sufficiently instructed for baptism, when the same shall become the surname; the name of baptism being prefixed thereto. A true copy of this list, signed by the collector, shall be delivered by him to the captor or prosecutor.

On the receipt of any number of Negroes, the collector or chief officer of the customs shall do his utmost to ascertain whether any of them are related to, or connected with each other, and if they are found to be so (of which the uncontradicted assertion of the parties shall be deemed sufficient proof) they shall in no case be separated, except where the employment of either shall make such separation indispensable.

On receiving such Negroes, the collector, &c. shall give notice to the chief officer of his Majesty's land forces in the colony, of the number of male Negroes fit for military service so received, that such officer may take any number of them as recruits for West Indian or African regiments, or to form new corps, or as pioneers, according to such instructions as he may from time to time receive. And in case all the Negroes shall not be wanted as soldiers, &c. the naval commanding officer shall receive any that the service may want.

Full power and authority are given to such collector, &c. to enter and enlist such Negroes as are fit for his Majesty's service, and to bind such as shall not be received into his Majesty's service as apprentices in manner following:

"1. The collector, &c. is to use his best endeavours to bind the Negroes apprentices to prudent and humane masters and mistresses, to learn such trades, &c. as they may seem most fit for.

"2. As for female Negroes, he is to take special care that they shall not be employed in agriculture, but in domestic service; and he is to bind them only to persons of good repute, and for such a term only as may be sufficient for their acquiring the knowledge of their business as domestic servants, with such addition thereto as may repay the care of their instruction.

"3. As to wives and mothers, if the husband be in the army, the wife shall be permitted to live with her husband, or placed as near as possible to the place where he is stationed; and this with the express approbation of the chief officer under whom he serves; and the wife shall not be bound apprentice at all, unless it shall be absolutely necessary. Nor in any case for a longer term than shall be necessary to enable her, with such aid as her husband can afford, or his Majesty may otherwise allow, to gain her own subsistence and that of her children.

"4. If the husband is to be apprenticed to a private master, then a preference shall be given to such person, making proposals for the apprenticeship of male Negroes, as in taking the husband, will consent also to take the wife and child, or children, and to enter into proper covenants, not to separate them from each other.

"5. In apprenticing women who have any child or children, or are pregnant, or are not past the age of child-bearing, a longer term of service may be granted, on condition that the master or mistress shall covenant to maintain the children born during the time of apprenticeship. But the portion of the term of service so granted, shall be distinguished from what would otherwise be deemed equivalent for the mother's instruction and support, and if at the expiration of the latter period, no child shall be living, the term of service shall cease and determine.

"6. In the case of the death of the master, the Negroes to be apprenticed afresh for any term, which, being added to the time which such Negro has already served, shall not exceed fourteen years.

"7. All indentures shall be made by the collector, &c. in the King's name, and the collector, &c. may prosecute in the King's name for any breach of the indentures.

"8. In all such indentures, the master or mistress shall covenant to provide the apprentice with comfortable food, clothing, and other necessaries; and not to treat the apprentice with severity; and to instruct him or her diligently in the specified trade or employment; and to cause the apprentice also to be carefully instructed, as speedily as possible, in the Christian reli-

The number of Methodists in society in the Virgin Islands amounted to 2173, of whom thirty-nine were Whites.

In the Bermudas, in September, they had fifty in society.

The population of the Bermudas, according to a census taken this year, amounted to 10,300, of whom 4500 were Whites.

At Trinidad, between ten and eleven o'clock on the night of the 24th of April, a fire broke out in the house of Dr. Schaw, in Frederick street, the combustible materials of the doctor's shop burnt with the greatest fury, the flames spread among the surrounding houses which were all of wood, and involved the whole town in destruction; twelve squares were entirely consumed and nine partially.

Four hundred and thirty-five principal houses with the fronts to the streets, besides back store and out-houses, which were estimated at four times that number, were destroyed. The government-house, the custom-house, the hospitals, the Protestant church, the gaol, the town-hall, a part of the public archives, and the treasurer's office, all fell a sacrifice to the flames.

All the tents in the garrison were pitched in Brunswick-square, to lodge the houseless sufferers.

Martial law was proclaimed and rations issued as in time of a siege.

A grenadier of the 37th devoted himself to save the life of a child, and succeeded in the attempt, but died in consequence. One Negro was also burnt to death.

The damage was estimated at half a million sterling.

On the 27th of May, Brigadier-General James Montgomery was appointed governor and commander-in-chief in and over the island of Dominica.

On the 8th of October, Lieutenant-General George Beckwith was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of Barbadoes.

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 146. 251. 226.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. ii. pp. 125. 250.

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gion; and when instructed, to be taken to be baptized, and to permit and encourage him or her to attend public worship; and shall further covenant not to assign the apprentice to any other person, or to send him or her into any other colony without the licence of the collector, &c. and to produce the apprentice when requested by him for his inspection, under a penalty equal to double the sum at which the apprentice would be valued, if to be sold for a slave. In default of performing these covenants, the apprenticeship shall cease.

The collector shall make up an annual report to the 31st of December each year of all his proceedings in executing this order, and transmit to the secretary of state for the colonial department.

The collector, &c. is empowered to grant certificates, for entitling the captors of prize Negroes to receive the bounties appointed by the said act for such forfeited Negroes, and the following bounties for prize Negroes; viz. £40 for every man, £30 for every woman, and £10 for every child under fourteen years.

The collector, &c. is to enjoy and exercise all the powers necessary to the execution of his aforesaid duties.

African Institution, 4th Report, pp. 61. 64. 66.

Sir Charles Brisbane, Kt. captain in the royal navy, was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of St. Vincent.

Hugh Elliot, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor of the Leeward Islands, and William Wooley, Esq. lieutenant-governor of Berbice.

On the 13th of December, Henry Bentick, Esq. was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the settlements of Demerary and Essequibo, and Charles Bentick, Esq. governor and commander-in-chief of the settlement of Surinam; Vice Hughes, deceased.

The produce of the Saints was 50,000 pounds of coffee, 90,000 of cotton, and a small quantity of tobacco.

Peace with Spain.

" Order in Council, 4th July, 1808.

" His Majesty, having taken into consideration the glorious exertions of the Spanish nation for the deliverance of their country from the tyranny and usurpation of France, and the assurances which his Majesty has received from several of the provinces of Spain, of their friendly disposition towards this kingdom, his Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order and it is hereby ordered, first, that all hostilities against Spain, on the part of his Majesty, shall immediately cease. Secondly, that the blockade of all the ports of Spain, except such as may be still in the possession or under controul of France, shall be forthwith raised. Thirdly, that all ships and vessels belonging to Spain shall have free admission into the ports of his Majesty's dominions, as before the present hostilities. Fourthly, that all ships and vessels belonging to Spain, which shall be met at sea by his Majesty's ships and cruizers, shall be treated in the same manner as the ships of any state in amity with his Majesty, and shall be suffered to carry on any trade now considered by his Majesty to be lawfully carried on by neutral ships. Fifthly, that all vessels and goods belonging to persons residing in the Spanish colonies, which shall be detained by any of his Majesty's cruizers after the date hereof, shall be brought into port, and shall be carefully preserved in safe custody, to await his Majesty's further pleasure, until it shall be known whether the said colonies, or any of them, in which the owners of such ships and goods reside, shall have made common cause with Spain against the power of France. And the right honourable the lords commissioners of his Majesty's treasury, his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, the lords commissioners of the admiralty, the judge of the high court of admiralty, and the judges of the court of vice-admiralty, are to take such measures herein as to them may respectively appertain."

Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 389.
Edinburgh Annual Register. State Papers.

King Joseph's Proclamation to all the Inhabitants of the Spanish Dominions in the West and East Indies.

"By virtue of the treaties of the 5th and 10th of May last, by which King Charles IV. and the princes of his house have formally relinquished all right and title to the crown of Spain, and all the dominions belonging to it, in favour of my dear and august brother, Napoleon the First, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. who hath been graciously pleased to confer the same upon me on the 4th of the present month, my wishes and my ambition have been to come to Spain, to take upon me the government of the country — to devote myself to the happiness and interest of the people whom Providence has committed to my charge, and to carry into effect the regulations which shall be made by the junta of the representatives and notables of the kingdom; which junta is assembled at Bayonne, and will be again called together at that place on the 15th instant, in order to take into consideration the means of establishing a just and permanent government, and of placing Spain, with all her exclusive dominions, on a better footing, by securing her independence, and raising her to that rank in the scale of nations which formerly distinguished her, and which her inhabitants are still worthy to possess. To accomplish this object, I have accepted the crown. I hasten to make this declaration of my paternal solicitude for your happiness, and to assure you, that it shall be exerted equally for the good of the remotest parts of my dominions. Confiding in my royal word, you shall continue to enjoy all your privileges as good subjects. Prosecute your ordinary avocations in peace. Be obedient to your superiors, and guard against the machinations of those who set the laws at defiance. Justice must be administered impartially, and I strictly enjoin all judges and magistrates to comply with my pleasure on this subject. Look up to me as your protector; I shall ever have your interest at heart, and will double my endeavours to defend you from the attack which the implacable enemies of Spain meditate against you. I enjoin all archbishops, bishops, and ministers of religion, which I pledge myself to maintain inviolate, to use their influence among the people, to make them obedient to the laws, and to guard against the dangerous consequences of sedition and treason. I repeat my declaration, that my government shall be founded on justice, and my sole object be the accomplishment of your happiness. All governors, judges, &c. are commanded to give the utmost publicity to this proclamation.

"I THE KING.

"Given at Bayonne, June 11th, 1808.

"By order of the King our most gracious Sovereign,

"M. JOS. D'AZANZA."

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808. State Papers.

Lord Collingwood had obtained intelligence that La Rapide, a corvette, charged with dispatches (King Joseph's proclamation) from Bayonne, had sailed for Cayenne; and when he sent out advices of the Spanish revolution to Sir Alexander Cochrane, commander-in-chief on the Leeward Island station, he requested, that he would endeavour to intercept this vessel, or counteract the effect of her papers. La Rapide was taken by the Bellette sloop of war, and carried into Barbadoes; but her dispatches had been thrown overboard. Shortly afterwards two cartels arrived, the one from Cayenne, the other from Martinico. To prevent any communication between these vessels and the prisoners from Europe, the latter were immediately sent to England in the ship of war then sailing with the convoy. Some circumstances, however, occasioned a suspicion that the cartel from Cayenne had spoken with La Rapide at sea; this led to an investigation, and duplicates of the dispatches were discovered under a barrel of flour.

Upon the 10th of August, a cartel sent by the Spanish captain-general, Don Toribio Montes, governor of Puerto Rico, brought to the French general Ferrand at St. Domingo, a declaration of war between the two countries; and also informed him, that in consequence of the war, a French privateer then at Puerto Rico was detained; but that her captain and crew were sent in the cartel to St. Domingo. This unexpected and unwelcome intelligence General Ferrand answered by the following letter:

" I have received, by M. F. Brasseti, your excellency's letter of the 2d instant. M. Chevalier, two sailors, and M. Panel, whom you have sent from Puerto Rico, are also arrived in the Petronilla. I will not conceal from you, captain-general, my astonishment at your excellency's seizure of the French privateer belonging to M. Chevalier, which your excellency declares to have been done in consequence of the war declared by the supreme junta of Seville against the Emperor Napoleon. I declare that I do not know of the political existence of this council, nor the character with which it ought to be invested, to perform acts which belong solely to a legitimate sovereign. Neither am I more certain as to those European events which ought to occasion a rupture, which the lasting harmony of the two governments will not allow me either to presume or foreknow. Whatever may be the motives which have determined your excellency, and which I shall not seek to fathom, I have the honour to declare to you, captain-general, that my conduct in regard to the Spaniards and the colonies of His Catholic Majesty, shall be constantly the same, until I shall receive contrary and official orders from my Sovereign. I shall continue to permit the Spanish vessels to trade with St. Domingo, and this day I have freely allowed a schooner of that nation from Cuba to depart, in

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, p. 336.
Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo.

regard to which, perhaps, I had the right to use reprisals. The Spaniards of St. Domingo, penetrated with the necessity of remaining united and full of confidence in the free and loyal proofs which I have given them of my solicitude, are inclined to remain tranquil, and repulse and punish all suggestions which tend to alter their union with the French, and to trouble public tranquillity. Confident myself in their attachment, and having no occasion to fear any thing that can occur, I shall tranquilly await the issue of the unhappy struggle which fate has provoked, and I shall continue to live in peace with all the neighbouring Spanish colonies, whose inhabitants will always be considered by me as allies and friends, at least until my intentions are altered by superior orders.

"I have the honour to be, with great consideration,
"Captain-General,
"Your excellency's devoted servant,
"Ferrand."

"P. S. M. Brasseti, and others of the crew of the schooner Petronilla, have appeared here with a cockade, which, as it appears to me is not the sign of any legitimate government, or one legally known, I have thought it my duty to prevent them from wearing it during their stay in this port, or on shore.

"My duty, and the interest of the colony which I command, oblige me to adopt a severe law against all those who, coming from without, would seek to provoke discord and disorder in a country which I have had the honour to command, and to preserve until this time from these two scourges.

"Ferrand."

The inhabitants of St. Domingo, who had taken refuge in Puerto Rico, proposed to the governor, D. Toribio Montes, to make an attack upon the east part of St. Domingo. They offered not only to partake of the dangers of the expedition, but to place 50,000 ("gourdes") in the royal coffers for the first expences of the war. The clergy of the island were also zealous in the cause. An agent, named Sarmiento, was sent to sound the inhabitants at Seybo; but he returned to Puerto Rico without success. General Ferrand was informed of the failure; and, in consequence, thought but slightly of the exertions of the patriots. Upon the 15th of September, "Le Juste" anchored at Puerto Rico with the approbation of the junta of Seville, for the execution of the plan of insurrection adopted by D. Toribio Montes.

Don Juan Sanchez, formerly commandant of Cotui, was landed in Española, to arrange matters with the inhabitants. Augustin Franco, the colonel commandant at Cibao, sent to General Ferrand information of Sanchez' exertions. Ferrand soon afterwards issued the following proclamation:

Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de St. Domingo, pp. 31, 32, 33, 34.

Proclamation of General Ferrand.

"Inhabitants of the east part of St. Domingo,

"The news which I have received from Puerto Rico announce that that Spanish colony is in a political ferment, which can only produce sinister and deplorable effects. The cause of this storm, which will perhaps embrace all the Spanish possessions in America, appears to proceed from some movements of discord and of rupture, which fate has occasioned between the French and Spaniards in Europe. The different statements which have reached us of these occurrences are so full of contradictions and nonsense, that their existence and their origin are, in our eyes, as yet enveloped in an obscurity almost impenetrable. We have unfortunately acquired the melancholy certainty of the results which their re-action has occasioned in Puerto Rico, and which will unfortunately occasion more in the other colonies of His Catholic Majesty.

"Inhabitants of the east part of St. Domingo; it is your wisdom and your prudence that must calculate upon and prevent the ills which the contagious influence of rashness, the intoxication of drunkenness (which prevails on all such occasions), might accumulate upon the country which you inhabit. It is by your union, your harmony, and your confidence in me, that you have resisted until now the combined efforts of the rebels in St. Domingo. It is by the happy combination of the same means, that you will continue to ward off the projects of destruction and of carnage which they may yet organize against you.

"You know their rage spares nobody, Spaniards as well as French have been confounded in the bloody lists of a general proscription; and should they now attempt to seduce any of you by a false shew of humanity, do not fail to guard yourselves from this deceitful and perfidious bait, by which yourselves will be sacrificed. It is by tightening more than ever the bands of union, of friendship, and of confidence, between the Spaniards and the French of St. Domingo, that we shall be able to brave any dangers whatever, and destroy the disastrous effects of that anarchy to which the Spanish colonies are about to become the prey. Spaniards of the east part of St. Domingo, you are all become Frenchmen; or rather, French and Spaniards, we form together but one band of brothers and of friends; we have only the same interests to defend, the same spirit and the same sentiments to profess. Rally therefore round me with that sincere devotion which I have a right to expect. Suspect and repulse all suggestions, whether from without or from the interior, which tend to scatter the unhappy seeds of distrust, of discord, and disorganization. Seize those agitators who circulate news to provoke disorder, and deliver them to the vengeance of the laws. Be calm amidst the storms which obscure the political horizon of

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 35. 37.

America; deplore the blindness or the fatal destiny of those around us, who chuse the cruel apprenticeship of revolutions; but, in contemplating them with that pity which their misfortunes command, take heed that we do not imitate them, and throw ourselves into that abyss of disasters into which the least imprudence will drag us. Wait tranquilly, and without interfering with either party, for the issue of the struggle and convulsions of our imprudent or unfortunate neighbours. The experience of all the miseries which for eighteen years has rendered the French part of St. Domingo one hideous theatre of desolation and horror, ought to be a terrible and useful lesson to us for ever.

" Inhabitants of the east part of St. Domingo! Such are the counsels of a chief who desires nothing so much as your happiness, who believes that he has a lawful right to your esteem and confidence. You know that his impartial equity has never made the least difference between the natives of the two nations who inhabit this country; he is a Frenchman, but having been born in a province which for a long time belonged to the crown of Castile, the Spanish blood flows also in his veins. He has preserved the customs and the laws, which habit and antient tradition concur to render dear.

" Professing the Catholic religion, he has constantly maintained its worship against the invasions which the spirit of incredulity has so often undertaken against its sacred dogmas.

" All his vows, all his efforts have in fact no other aim but that of securing the tranquillity, and preserving the country from the destructive elements which appear to render its ruin inevitable.

" It is to preserve the happy success of my cares and solicitude until the end, that I address these friendly exhortations to you. This grand consideration and your interest only could dictate them, because measures independent of all these occurrences place the possession of that important place St. Domingo safe from all accidents. Inhabitants of the east part of St. Domingo I have shewn you your actual position, I have enabled you to see the depth of the precipice which the wisdom of Divine Providence has opened in your path, I have traced to you that conduct which, with the all-powerful assistance of the Most High, may prevent you from falling into it.

" I dare rely upon your wisdom the same as upon the zeal and attachment with which all the commandants of the diverse communes and other chiefs, Spaniards as well as French, unceasingly have given the most signal proofs.

" Ferrand."

In consequence of Ferrand's resolution not to interrupt the commerce which existed between the two nations, a Captain Brasseti

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 38, 39, 40.

made a second voyage to St. Domingo, and anchored in that harbour the 22d of September. On board this vessel two hundred proclamations were found, which opened the eyes of the French government to the dangers with which they were menaced.

Brasseti was arrested and sent back to Puerto Rico.

The most rigorous orders were issued to all parts of the coast to prevent emissaries from landing, but these were ineffectual; the whole population were against the French, who say, that the very air they breathed was impregnated with revolutionary miasma.

Salvador Felix, a commissioner sent by the governor Toribio Montes, to raise the people in the south, landed at Barahonde upon the 26th of September, and was immediately joined by D. Cristoval Huber Franco. Petion engaged to supply them with arms in exchange for horned cattle. Cristoval Huber, assisted by Cyriaque Ramirez, an inhabitant of Azua, and Manuel Ximenes, brother-in-law to Cyriaque, joined with Cristoval Huber and Salvador Felix, to organize the patriots in Azua and Neybe.

Colonel Aussenac, who commanded for the French in those districts, marched to oppose the patriots. Upon the 10th of October, he left the village of Azua, with two companies of dragoons and eighty-four troops of the line. Upon the 12th, the troops arrived upon the borders of the Petit Yague, where 200 of the patriots occupied an advantageous position upon a hill called Malpasso. Aussenac immediately gave orders to attack them, but the French were obliged to retreat, under a heavy fire of musketry, with the loss of their commandant Lieutenant Ponte; the cavalry, unable to act, remained spectators of the battle. Colonel Aussenac returned to Azua; and Huber and Cyriaque overrun the districts of Azua de la Mate and Des Corosses, and enrolled under their banners a great number of the inhabitants.

Upon the 21st of October, Colonel Aussenac, having received a reinforcement, left Azua; fifty men patrolled the environs of the village for information; about three quarters of a league off, where two roads meet, they fell into an ambuscade of 200 men, commanded by Joseph d'Espinosa, the old commandant of La Mate; four of the French were wounded. Enraged at the general rising of the inhabitants, upon the morning of the 22d, Colonel Aussenac sent a detachment to burn all the habitations in the neighbourhood of the village, which was ferociously done. The patriots, to the number of 500 men, were at Savane la Mule. At two A.M. on the 23d, Aussenac, with 150 infantry, left Azua, and at six approached so near the patriots that the voice of their officers was distinctly heard; a small ravine concealed the French. Aussenac, having arranged his troops for the attack, gained the level where the Spaniards were formed; after resisting for twenty minutes the patriots fled in all directions, leaving six dead upon the field, but

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 41, 42, 43. 45. 52. 54, 55.

carrying off their wounded. The French allege their want of cavalry as a reason for not pursuing the fugitives. Upon the evening previous to this action, Joseph d'Espinosa, with fifty-five men, proceeded to oppose Colonel Casillas, who was marching to assist Colonel Aussenac, near the Coupe de St. Juan. Casillas was killed by Nolasque Garcia, captain of the dragoons of Corosses. From this time the district of St. Juan was in possession of the patriots, who immediately dispatched a messenger to Petion for succours; this application was unsuccessful, but the messenger returned with some ammunition which he procured at Port-au-Prince. The French general, Ferrand, now offered 100 (Portugaises) pieces of eight, to any one that would bring in Cyriaque Ramirez alive, fifty to any that would bring him dead, twenty-five for Ximenes, and as many for Huber Franco; and sent orders to Colonel Aussenac to shoot them immediately if they were taken.

Upon the 6th of November, Aussenac hearing that the patriots had taken post at Tavara, about six leagues from Azua, with 600 infantry and 200 cavalry, and having only about 250 men to oppose them, of whom sixty were strangers and of doubtful fidelity, he evacuated Azua. He had destroyed the surrounding houses, and could get no provisions; and, expecting the enemy would occupy the defile of Rincon d'Azua to oppose his retreat, he took post at Savana Buey, one league from the river Oco. He had received information that the whole of the districts to the east had risen, and that 300 men from Puerto Rico had landed at Youme, and also that his general-in-chief had left St. Domingo at the head of 500 men. For several days Aussenac was uncertain of the result of the captain-general's march, and perplexed by the numerous reports of the augmented force of the patriots. Upon the 12th of November he returned to St. Domingo. Previous to General Ferrand's quitting the city he issued the following proclamation:

Proclamation of the General in-Chief to the Inhabitants of the East Part.

"I have been informed that two or three hundred scoundrels, from Puerto Rico, have landed upon the coasts of Higone and Seybo. Although they say, that they are sent by the Spanish government to take possession of the east part of St. Domingo, they are nevertheless composed only of vagabonds, of men without any declared character, and without any chief possessed of proper authority to guide them; besides, every man of sense knows that such an embassy could not be trusted to a vile mass of banditti, and that this country could not be ceded to Spain, without a convention of the two respective governments, which would be officially known.

"Thus the brigands who form the expedition are only come to

Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 56. 60, 61, 62, 63. 76.

enrich themselves by plunder, and to collect all the refuse of the community to join in their execrable projects. I expect that my counsels and exhortations will precede me, and fortify all the inhabitants of the country against those insinuations likely to seduce them.

"But many have been deaf to my voice, to that of their own interests, to all the considerations which religion and honour could offer them, to render them firm in the fidelity and obedience which they owe to government. Many have believed that the sage admonitions and disinterested advice with which I have addressed them, have proceeded from weakness or from fear. They do not blush to join themselves to the horde of rascals from Puerto Rico, and to declare themselves in revolt against me. And at what a time too do they render themselves guilty of this treason? When the English government is about to permit its colonies to trade with the east of St. Domingo, and by this act recall abundance in reviving the cutting of "acajou," and all the branches of local industry. Since, then, all the efforts of a solicitude, proceeding from beneficence, have obtained a result so different from what I had a right to expect, it is time to have recourse to other means.

"The days of clemency are passed; I am going from henceforward to use a severity equally just and inflexible; I am going to teach the wicked, that it is not fear which has made me constantly good and generous. One part of the troops of the line which form the garrison, another of the Spanish and French national guard, as well those of the city as of its environs, commanded by Colonel D. Thomas Ramirez, is going to march against the brigands, who will be beaten as soon as attacked, because rascals are always cowards. I declare to all the inhabitants of the communes of the east part, and above all to those of Higone and Seybo, that the sword of the most terrible vengeance is lifted over those, who, having joined the brigands from Puerto Rico, or having taken the smallest part in the rebellion, shall not immediately return to order, by making their submission to the commandant of the forces employed against the mob.

"Orders are given for their undergoing such a punishment as will for ever serve as an example to all rascals who wish to imitate them. It is for them to determine whether it will be better to preserve their country, their families, and their property, by remaining faithful to government; or to see the whole reduced to fire and blood, by allying themselves with their own and our enemies. Oh! that they may follow the praise-worthy example set them by the brave Spaniards of St. Domingo and its environs, in whom I place the greatest confidence, and who acquire every day fresh claims upon it. I hope sincerely, that all the other communes will also, by doing their duty at this time, obtain the same tribute of praise, and merit the same kindness from government; for it gives me pleasure to announce, that already a new arrangement is about to

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 64, 65, 66.

recompence the fidelity of the brave Spaniards who have always done their duty, by exonerating all debtors to the state from paying their taxes, even though they were not in the colony during the siege of Santo Domingo, or should not arrive until after this time. The same favour is reserved for the inhabitants who were present, for the goods oppressed with taxes, belonging to their absent brothers, fathers, or children, to which they can produce a legal title. To these advantages I propose to add another, which I am going to solicit from the French government with the greatest earnestness; it is to remit to the present debtors of tribute, one part of the capital, which I think cannot be less than half. An order of mine, which will contain the details of these diverse arrangements, is about to be published and printed in the course of the week. If all the virtues which constitute an honest man and good christian, thus obtain the price which is their due, crime and rascality, I repeat, shall have that punishment, which the same principles of justice and equity command. I dare believe, that I shall not be under the cruel necessity of executing the menaces which accompany this last call to order and obedience. I hope that all the inhabitants, without exception, will combine with that enthusiasm with which their own interest and that of the colony must inspire them, to cast back into the sea the impure carcasses of the brigands, which she has vomited upon our coasts, who only come to fatten upon the feeble remains which the revolution has left to the unhappy colonists of Santo Domingo.

" Lastly; as I am willing myself to enjoy the satisfaction of receiving the submission of the erring inhabitants, I declare, that I shall place myself at the head of the expedition. Woe to those who deceive my hopes; the more my goodness and clemency until now have been great, the more will the severity and rigor which I will exercise towards those who shall not return immediately to their duty, be terrible.

" Done at head-quarters, in Santo Domingo, 30th October, 1808."

The French colonel, Peralta, was seized by Manuel Carabajal, and confined in prison; several other Frenchmen, in different parts, were killed. Upon the 5th of November, General Ferrand summoned the patriots to lay down their arms for the last time. The next day, Don Juan Sanchez, captain-general of the east part, replied to the summons, by declaring he was very well able to defend himself if he was attacked. Upon the 7th, General Ferrand marched to the Seybo. Two hundred of the patriots ineffectually opposed his passage across the junction of the two rivers. By eleven A. M. he arrived within gun-shot of the enemy's position at Palo Hincado; they had 1200 infantry, and 600 cavalry. Their wings were protected by lancers on horseback, and their centre by a strong intrenchment. Francisco de Castro, a rich inhabitant of this part,

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 67, 68, 69.

delivered General Ferrand a letter from Don Juan Sanchez, and advised him not to risk an action with such superior numbers; but the day was come, when General Ferrand was to find, that his opponents as little deserved the appellation of cowards, as he must have known they did that of rascals. Presuming upon the terror of the French name, immediately he approached the patriots, he ordered his advanced guard to commence the attack; their commandant, Brietti, supported by some grenadiers, obeyed the orders; but at the moment when the column had deployed to form in line of battle, the fire of the patriots broke their ranks; their wings were attacked by the cavalry, and such terror spread among them, that all attempts of their officers to rally the men were ineffectual. Surrounded by the remainder of his cavalry, General Ferrand attempted to retreat; for four hours he opposed the attacks of the enemy who pursued him; when finding all resistance vain; seeing his companions killed in all directions round him, and dreading to fall into the hands of men whom he had treated so contemptuously, he asked one of his officers for some powder to prime his pistols, and, without giving them any notice of his intention, shot himself dead upon the spot. The retreat now became a flight. The French acknowledge that of the 500 men who left Santo Domingo, only forty returned within its walls; the rest were killed or taken prisoners. They accuse the Spaniards of showing Ferrand's head upon a pike to some English officers.

Palo Hincado is thirty leagues from the city of Santo Domingo, from whence a detachment of fifty grenadiers was sent to protect the remains of the French army.

General Barquier succeeded General Ferrand. He immediately declared the city of Santo Domingo in a state of siege, and issued the following proclamation:—

"The general-in-chief is no more; he has perished, the victim of his blind confidence; let us pay to his memory the just tribute which we owe him of tears and praise; but let not grief soften our souls.

"I will not deceive you as to your danger; it is worthy of your courage; preserve the attitude which you have taken. Providence and the genius of France hover over us; hope every thing; nothing is impossible to a firm and decided will."

Upon the 10th of November, the French at Samana, under their commandant, Castel, surrendered to an English squadron of three frigates and two brigs. The place was delivered to the patriots upon condition that the persons and property of the French should be respected.

After the battle of Palo Hincado, the patriots advanced to Hayna Moza, a house three leagues from the city of Santo Domingo. Upon the 30th of November, Cyriaque, at the head of his division,

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 70, 71, 73, 76, 77, 78, 444.

passed the river Jayne, and drove in the French foragers from the westward; the same day the Spaniards approached the city; a skirmish took place between their advanced guard, and the French, under the command of the "chef de bataillon" Repussart. The Spaniards retired to Fort St. Jerome, leaving eight men upon the field of battle. The French acknowledge to have had seven wounded.

Upon the 8th of December, the patriots had advanced their entrenchment to within half-gun-shot of the city; their forces were collected at St. Jerome. Colonel Aussenac, with 200 men, was ordered to make a sortie, and destroy the works. He divided his men into three columns; two were to attack the flanks, while the centre column occupied the attention of the patriots in front. A failure in 200 of the patriots, who were placed in ambush upon the left flank, enabled the right wing of the French to carry all before them; the attack of their other columns was also successful; and Cyriaque Ramirez was obliged to retreat to Fort Jerome. The Spaniards are reported by the French to have lost eighty men upon this occasion, and all their advanced works to have been destroyed. The loss of the assailants was trifling. In the ensuing night the Spaniards re-occupied their former position.

Upon the 16th, twenty-seven persons were arrested in the city as conspirators, and confined in prison by order of the French general.

Upon the 17th, Don Juan Sanchez summoned the city to surrender, to which no answer was returned; and that night, at eight o'clock, a fire of musketry was opened upon the city, for the purpose of harassing the French troops; this was continued every night until the 20th, when it was discontinued. The same day a cartel from Curaçoa entered the harbour; its object was to save some families from the miseries of the siege. General Barquier, in reply, told the officer that the French were safer in Santo Domingo than they would be at Curaçoa.

Upon the 21st, a Spanish flotilla, consisting of one schooner and two gun-boats, from Puerto Rico, passed the city, and anchored off Fort Jerome. They drove a French dispatch-boat, commanded by Captain Boyer, into the harbour, and carried to Don Juan Sanchez ammunition and money. About this time some of the French civil authorities appear to have disagreed with the military; M. d'Aubrement, "administrateur-general," sent in his resignation. The general ordered him to be "deported," and appointed M. Fabvre to the situation.

Upon the 22d, a cartel arrived from St. Thomas, to recover some money due from private merchants. General Barquier refused any compliance with the request, until after the vessel had introduced into the city 500 barrels of flour, for which he promised payment in

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 79. 82, 83. 85. 87, 88.

money, at a price to be fixed by the merchants. The vessel in consequence sailed again the same night.

No Negro was allowed to be employed among the Spaniards during this siege; and all the stores borrowed from Henry Christophe, that should not be returned in the same state in which they were obtained, were ordered to be most scrupulously paid for. The Spaniards were also forbidden by Don Toribio Montes from plundering any house or person when they got possession of the city. The French were to be equally protected as well as other persons, and to be sent to Cuba.

A central junta assembled at Bondille, and proclaimed Don J. Sanchez captain and intendant-general of the Spanish part of St. Domingo. Cyriaque Ramirez and Cristoval Huber were dispatched to Puerto Rico for artillery. The French accuse Sanchez of sending them away from motives of jealousy. The army of the patriots was now composed of three divisions; that of the east was commanded by Manuel Carabajal, that of the north by D. Diego Polanco, and that of the south, which was the most numerous of the whole, by D. Juan Sanchez, commander-in-chief.

On the 23d of December, eighty men of the colonial legion, supported by 100 troops of the line, left the city to occupy the position of Santo Carlos, for the purpose of protecting the foragers. They repulsed the Spanish troops which opposed them.

On the 27th, the French dispatch-boat, the Sentinelle, was driven into the harbour, with her captain (Boyer) mortally wounded.

On the 28th, the Spaniards opened a fire of musketry upon the vessels in the harbour, from behind entrenchments which they had thrown up on the opposite side of the Ozama. This unexpected attack, which was continued until the 29th, obliged all the vessels to quit the harbour in the night, and anchor in the roads, with the loss of several men.

Upon the 30th, the French general sent a flag of truce to D. Juan Sanchez, to express his surprize that the Spaniards should fire upon the vessels in which the French women were embarked to seek shelter in the neighbouring islands, after his having permitted all the Spanish women and children to quit the city. The next day the Spaniards sent Don Salvador Valdalluli to the French general to propose a suspension of arms for three days, for the purpose of facilitating the communications between the two generals relative to the French surrendering the place. During the truce all work at the entrenchments was to be suspended. On the same day an English corvette from the south arrived to blockade the port, which had been open during twenty days.

St. Martins.—An unsuccessful attack was made upon this colony on the 7th of September, by his Majesty's ships Wanderer and

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Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 91. 100, 101, 102. 104. 109, 110.

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1808, vol. ii. p. 192.

Subtle. Lieutenant Spearing landed with 135 men, and soon gained possession of the lower fort of six guns; but on ascending the rocky heights, covered with prickly pear, he was shot within ten yards of the upper fort; several others shared the same fate, and the survivors were obliged to surrender. Captain Crofton sent a flag of truce on shore, and was allowed to receive all the prisoners. The French commandant, as a mark of respect, attended the funeral of Lieutenant Spearing. The French had 900 troops in the fort, and had received information of the intended attack.

The Junon, French frigate, of forty-eight guns and 360 men, was captured off the Saints, by his Majesty's ships Horatio and Latona. Captain Scott, of the Horatio, and his first lieutenant, were wounded. The French captain, and 130 of his crew, were killed and wounded. The Junon was laden with sugar and coffee from Guadaloupe.

Captain Anthony, in the Cornwallis packet, on the 24th of September, to windward of Barbadoes, was chased by La Duquesne schooner privateer, of twelve guns, and finding it impossible to escape, shortened sail and prepared for action. After an action of two hours and a quarter, the privateer sheered off, having had fourteen men killed and thirty wounded, leaving the packet much disabled, with two men killed and two wounded. She arrived at Barbadoes the next day, where £63 was raised by subscription for a silver cup for Captain Anthony, and a handsome sum given to his crew.

Admiral Cochrane's Report of his Majesty's Brig Maria.

"Sir, "Northumberland, off Martinico, 2d November, 1808.

"I enclose the copy of a letter from the master of his Majesty's late brig Maria, giving an account of her capture by a large French corvette ship, of twenty-two heavy guns. The Maria was a small brig of twelve twelve-pounder carronades and two long fours, and sixty-five men. The officers and crew, however, fought her well, and did not strike until she was near sinking. When the enemy took possession, they were obliged to run her on shore and destroy her. I regret the loss of her commander, Lieutenant Bennett, who was an officer of long standing and of great merit. Mr. O'Donnell, midshipman, was also killed, and four seamen and nine others wounded. "I am, &c.

"Alexander Cochrane.

"Sir, "Roseau, Dominica, 18th October, 1808.

"I have taken the earliest opportunity of acquainting you of the loss of his Majesty's brig Maria, Lieutenant Bennett late commander.

"Wishing to join you as soon as possible, I made application for

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1809, vol. ii. p. 111.
Naval Chronicle, 1809, p. 16.

a cartel, which was granted for four officers and myself, by General Erneuf, for Dominica, where we arrived this morning. On the 29th of September, Point Antigua, Grand Tierre, bearing S.W. at six A.M. saw a sail bearing S.E.b.S. Made all sail to cut her off the land. When we came within a mile of the chase, she seemed to haul more for the land; Lieutenant Bennett supposed her to be a French letter of marque. When we came within gun-shot, shewed our ensign and pendant, still keeping within her and the land. A flaw from the land took us aback, and fell dead calm, which exposed us to her broadside. She then hoisted her French ensign and pendant, up ports, and raked us fore and aft. Lieutenent Bennett used every exertion in ordering sweeps to be got out, which was instantly done; but we received her second broadside in the like manner. We kept up a constant fire when our broadside would bear; it still continued calm. Finding it impossible to save his Majesty's brig by attempting to run, and from the state of our masts, and yards, and rigging, then making much water from shot received in our hull, still kept up the action. Our ensign haulyards being shot away, the French captain asked, "Had we struck?" Was answered in the negative by Lieutenant Bennett, who was shortly after killed by three grape shot he received in his body. I still ordered the fire to be kept up, until I found his Majesty's brig in a sinking condition; struck. Whether from the confusion of the enemy, or from the situation she was then in, they, shortly after taking possession of his Majesty's brig, ran her on shore, and left her an entire wreck.

"She is the French national vessel Le Sards, mounting twenty-two guns and one swivel. On her main deck sixteen thirty-two pound carronades, and four long twelve-pounder guns, on her quarter-deck two nine-pounders.

"I am sorry to add, the loss on board his Majesty's brig Maria, was James Bennett, lieutenant, commander; Robert O'Donnell, midshipman; and four seamen, killed; and nine wounded, now in Point-à-Petre hospital, in a fair way of recovery. It would have given pleasure both to officers and seamen to have captured her. From her superiority in force was compelled to strike.

"I have, &c.

"To Sir A. Cochrane." "JOSEPH DIASON, Master."

Naval Chronicle, 1809, vol. xxi. p. 16.

Captain Edmund Waller, in his Majesty's sloop Wolf, off Jamaica, 1st May, 1808, captured the Spanish privateer La Braganza, of one gun and fifty-four men.

Captain J. H. Inglefield in his Majesty's ship Bacchante, off Cape Antonio, on the 11th of May, 1808, captured the French Imperial brig Griffon, of sixteen guns and 125 men.

On the 20th of June, L'Eclair captured a row-boat privateer with twenty men; and his Majesty's sloops Cherub and Nimrod, La Vaillante, French privateer of one gun and twenty men.

Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane, in a letter to the admiralty, dated 29th June, 1809, reported to the admiralty, that a bottle had been picked up on the windward

1809.

On the 2d of January, the French general in the city of St. Domingo sent to the Spanish head-quarters, to complain that the men were working in the intrenchment, contrary to the stipulations for the truce. The Spaniards said it was a mistake of the officer commanding upon the left bank of the river, who had the most positive orders to desist. In return they complained that the French had also broken the truce by sending a vessel from Santo Domingo to Jayne Bay, where she had fired three times at the shore. The French denied that the shot were fired on shore; but that the captain (Begon) was trying his guns in the open sea. The officer returned to the city, with the intimation that hostilities would be recommenced the next day at ten A. M.

Upon the 6th, General Barquier sent his answer to the summons. Don Juan Sanchez proposed to the officer who carried the answer, to send back all the French prisoners, without distinction, upon condition that the French should send him all the Spaniards. Presuming upon Don Juan Sanchez' attachment to the Romish reli-

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Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 110, 111. 114. 120, 121.

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part of Martinico, on the 18th of April, which had "been thrown overboard by the Princess Elizabeth packet, going to Brazil, on the 6th September, 1808, in lat. 14° 45′ N. and long. 25° W., and it must (the admiral says) have been carried about 2020 miles in 224 days, which gives nine miles per day on a west coast."

Captain G. Sanders, in his Majesty's sloop Bellette, off Barbadoes, on the 2d of July, captured the French privateer Jalouse, of four guns and seventy-five men.

Captain Alexander Skene, in his Majesty's ship Guerriere, on the 17th of July, off Guadaloupe, captured the French privateer Peraty (late his Majesty's cutter Barbara), of twelve guns and ninety men. Captain Skene says, "She was discovered in the track of the valuable Jamaica fleet under convoy of the Veteran, of which she had obtained most correct information as to their strength, number, and situation, from the master of an American brig, who had himself claimed and received the protection of that convoy, which he betrayed to the enemy in twenty-four hours after parting company."

Captain P. Beaver, in his Majesty's ship Acasta, off La Guira, on the 17th of July, captured Le Serpent, French national brig, of eighteen guns and 104 men.

Captain George Sanders, in his Majesty's sloop Bellette, on the 23d of August, captured the French privateer Confiance, of seven guns and seventy men, from Cayenne.

Lieutenant J. E. Watt, of his Majesty's sloop Julia, off Guadaloupe, on the 30th of August, captured Le Petit Decide, row-boat privateer, with twenty-two men.

Lieutenant Carr, in the Attentive gun-brig, captured another, and Lieutenant Dowers, in his Majesty's sloop Express, a third vessel of this description, having one gun and thirty-five men.

Captain Lillicrap, in his Majesty's sloop Dispatch, on the 2d of October, off Nevis, captured the Dorade privateer, belonging to Guadaloupe, of one gun and twenty men.

Captain Cockburn, in his Majesty's ship Pompee, on the 20th of October, to windward of Barbadoes, captured Le Pylade, French corvette brig, of sixteen guns and 109 men, after a chase of eighteen hours.

Captain Pigot, in his Majesty's ship Circe, on the 31st of October, captured the Palineur, French brig, of fifteen guns and seventy-nine men, from under the battery on Point Solomon, Martinico, after an action of ten minutes.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xx. pp. 69. 153. 157. 238. 327. 480.; vol. xxi. p. 71.; vol. xxii. p. 191.

gion, and his devotion to their priests, General Barquier procured a letter from "Le Pére Correa" to Don Juan Sanchez, who returned a civil answer to the miserable arguments contained in it. A long correspondence was kept up between the two, upon the propriety of the conduct which Don Juan Sanchez had thought proper to adopt.

On the 15th, a cartel from Curaçoa to Santo Domingo was detained by Captain Webb, because she had more provisions on board than was necessary for her crew. The dispatches which she brought, relative to an exchange of prisoners, were forwarded to the French, who insisted upon the release of the cartel.

Captain Webb suffered himself to be persuaded upon this point, and permitted the vessel with the provisions on board to enter the harbour, to the great joy of the inhabitants. Captain "Cornali," of the artillery, and some other officers, went on shore, and were received with great respect by the French, who report that Captain Cornali, upon his return, should tell Captain Webb "not to go to Santo Domingo, if he wished to perform his duty rigorously." Don Juan Sanchez was so displeased with Captain Webb's conduct, which he considered as retarding the surrender of the city, that he complained to Admiral Rowley of his conduct.

At this time a wild plant called "La Gualliga," which, the French say, took six days in preparing for use, was the only article of food the French had, and this occasioned swellings in their bodies and limbs.

Upon the 23d, the French determined, by a general sortie, to raise the blockade, and revictual the city. One thousand men were appointed to attack Don Juan Sanchez' head-quarters at Fort Jerome.

The lines of circumvallation extended from the sea to a house called Cabral, and were defended by 1100 men; a second line of intrenchments, occupied by 600 men, protected the left flank of Fort St. Jerome, and 500 cavalry covered the head-quarters, which were at General Ferrand's house. The rest of Sanchez' army, to the number of 2000 men, occupied the positions of Galard and Manganagua.

The sortie took place on the 24th, the troops were headed by Colonel Aussenac. A column of 500 men, with two pieces of cannon, was ordered by the high road to St. Jerome, to attack the front of the Spanish intrenchments. At the same moment a column of 400 men should, by a rapid movement, turn their line, after having carried the intermediate positions, and arrived in the rear of the intrenchments. The two united columns were then to march towards Fort St. Jerome; the left column was to blockade it, while the right took up a position between it and the head-quarters, to keep in check and divide the Spanish forces. At six o'clock the right column, under the "chef de bataillon" Vassimon, forced the

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Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 165. 167. 169, 170, 171. 455.

intrenchments at Alvarez' house and Cabral camp. At the same time, the left column, under the "chef de bataillon" Fortier, attacked the line in front, and obliged the Spaniards to abandon it. The two columns then made good their junction in the advanced works of Fort St. Jerome.

Colonel Aussenac left 100 grenadiers in the intrenchments, and 200 men to blockade Fort St. Jerome, and, with the rest of the army, advanced to General Ferrand's house, from which Don Juan Sanchez and Colonel Ximenes retreated to Fort Jayne.

A post called "Belveder," situated on an eminence a quarter of a league from the head-quarters, was still occupied by 200 Spaniards. This was stormed by Colonel Aussenac, who was crowned with laurel by his soldiers, rather prematurely, upon the spot; for while the troops, in fancied security, were emptying the magazines, a party of Spaniards, commanded by Augustin Gomez, had the audacity (to use the French term) to re-occupy Belveder, and General Barquier, with his "état major," as he was returning to the city, after visiting the field of battle, was so nearly taken by the Spanish cavalry, that he was obliged to join the troops at General Ferrand's house. Before nine o'clock Fort St. Jerome surrendered; only forty men, with their commandant Don Francisco Diaz, were left alive in the place. Belveder was again retaken, the Spanish troops retiring from it to Galard. The French say that the Spaniards lost 500 men killed and eighty prisoners, two pieces of cannon, all their ammunition, and a great quantity of provisions, and only acknowledge to have had forty men killed and thirty wounded themselves. The French army encamped at St. Jerome, and remained there until the 27th.

The day after the action, General Barquier sent a flag of truce to the Spaniards at Galard. The officer had orders to deliver his dispatches only to Don Sanchez, who, however, was not at Galard, but sent word that he should be there on the 26th or 27th. The French returned to their general, and recommended a second attack upon the Spaniards.

At two A. M. on the 27th, Colonel Aussenac began his march from St. Jerome by the road of St. Yague to Galard. At six the Spanish advanced posts opened their fire upon the French columns, who, after an hour's resistance, quitted the road, and proceeded by a small foot-path across the wood to the rear of the Spanish position, observing the greatest silence during their march. Their approach by this route was unexpected. The Spanish cavalry were unable to act against them, and in less than ten minutes the French were in possession of the intrenchments. The Spaniards, in retiring, occupied an advantageous position with part of their troops, from which they were driven by a party of the French under the command of the "chef de bataillon" Vassimon. Colonel Aussenac

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Precis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 172, 173, 174, 175. 182, 185, 186, 187.

left some grenadiers to occupy the intrenchments, and followed the Spaniards for about an hour; but the Spanish cavalry stopped the pursuit, obliged the French to form in solid masses to protect themselves, and in that manner to retire upon Galard. The remembrance of the disasters at Palo Hincado had made a deep impression upon the spirits of the French soldiers.

On the 28th, an English sloop of war, with some Spanish gun-boats, cannonaded Fort St. Jerome.

On the 29th, the captain of the sloop, and some of the officers, went on shore with a flag of truce.

On the 30th, the French marched to Fort Jayne, which was abandoned on their approach, the garrison retiring to intrenchments on the opposite side of the river. The French returned to the city with the provisions they found in the fort.

Between the 26th of January and the 1st of February, the French collected sufficient provision for the inhabitants of the city of St. Domingo for one month. What kind of provision is not mentioned; but the French confess that the garrison could not be maintained with the same. General Barquier, conceiving it a favourable opportunity, sent to Don Juan Sanchez proposals for a peace, which was laconically answered in the negative, but with a proposal for an exchange of prisoners. On the 12th, a vessel from Cuba, laden with sugar, arrived at Santo Domingo.

On the 17th, a schooner, with provisions on board, from Curaçoa, entered the harbour. The boats of the English brig attempted to cut her off, but an armed felucca came out to her assistance, and forced the boats to retreat. The success of the French on this occasion gave rise to a pompous eulogium upon the captain of the felucca in their gazette.

On the 19th, Colonel Aussenac received orders to prepare to cross the Ozama, and attack the Spanish intrenchments. An anchor, by which the boats were to haul across the river, was placed, notwithstanding the fire from the Spanish troops.

The French were divided into two columns, and sixteen boats carried 140 only at a time. While the first party were receiving the fire of the Spaniards, a battery of twenty guns opened upon their flanks, and carried death and destruction among them. The French made good their landing, and in less than an hour 800 of their troops were across the river. The Spaniards retired to their intrenchments at Manganagua, and the French followed to attack them. The two first discharges from the Spanish lines put thirty of the French "hors de combat," and forced their advanced guard to retreat; but the right wing of the French, by a rapid movement through the wood to the left of the intrenchment, and attacking it in flank, decided the fate of the day, and left them masters of the works, where they found four guns, two of which were not mounted. The Spanish loss was 200 killed and wounded.

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 188, 189, 190, 191. 197. 203. 207. 209 211.

The French acknowledge to have lost but half that number. Their engineers immediately planned out-works upon the heights on the left bank of the river, to protect the harbour.

The next morning, at six, the Spaniards renewed the action, and ultimately succeeded in obliging the French to abandon the intrenchments of Manganagua, and take up their position on the bank of the river, from whence they detached 150 men, to oppose the Spaniards near Fort St. Jerome. Upon the highest part of the banks of the river, Colonel Vassimon placed gabions round his camp, and two field-pieces to protect it. The ground was cleared away for the distance of two musket-shots around, and in twenty-four hours a fortification was raised, which was considered safe from all attempts of the Spaniards.

On the 14th of March, the French sent another flag of truce to Don Juan Sanchez. They were now reduced to only eight days short allowance of maize, and wished for a truce. They pointed out to Don Sanchez the misery he would bring upon his countrymen in the city, by not acceding to their wishes. Don Sanchez replied, that what might have been admissible only eight days ago, was no longer so now, and dismissed the officer, who was a Spaniard, advising him to put his trust in heaven. Upon his return, the French, to recruit their diminished ranks, organized a company of 100 Negroes, to whom government promised their freedom, upon condition of their serving for eight years under the French flag.

The 26th and 27th was employed by the French in working at the redoubt on the banks of the Ozama.

On the 1st of March, the gun-boats and small vessels bombarded Fort St. Jerome, for an hour and a half, without effect.

The French garrison now became clamorous for a capitulation. On the 4th, a long address was issued to them in the orders of the day, reminding them of their glory, falsely asserting that no capitulation would be granted by the English, and that death would be preferable to surrendering their arms, covered with laurels, to the hordes of vile rebels, who would murder them all.

On the 6th, the drooping spirits of the garrison were raised by the arrival of the Beau Narcille pilot-boat, with 150 barrels of flour, from St. Bartholomew's. For the preceding month, four thousand persons had been living upon dogs and cats, horses, asses, and old hides, and such small quantities of manioc as they daily won from the Spaniards with the bayonet. The garrison was now considered to be victualled for forty days.

On the 8th, a female, who had been taken marauding two days before, was sent back to the garrison, with some letters, and a summons to General Barquier to surrender. That same night the gun-boats from behind the east point of the harbour bombarded the city.

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 213. 216. 218. 221. 223. 225. 228. 232. 234.

On the 9th, at day-break, the inhabitants of St. Domingo were gladdened by the appearance of the Superieur, a large schooner which had sailed from thence, in November, for provisions. All the efforts of the English boats to stop her were ineffectual, and she got safe into the harbour; but in proportion as the expectations of the inhabitants were high, so was the greatness of their disappointment; she had returned unsuccessful, and without any provisions even for her own crew. She had been at America, where the embargo was so rigorously enforced, that her captain's and the French consul's efforts to procure flour were all ineffectual. The same evening, at seven o'clock, a felucca anchored in the roads, under the protection of the batteries; but at ten P. M. she was cut out by the English boats, and carried off in triumph, to the great mortification of the French, who had long been expecting her, and feared that she would now be used as a fatal instrument, from her superiority of sailing, in preventing the arrival of other vessels.

The next day the Spaniards sent a flag of truce to the French, with proposals for an exchange of prisoners, which was settled. The Spaniards had fifty-six prisoners, the French wanted twelve of that number, and for the three principal Spanish prisoners which were liberated by the French, Don Juan Sanchez was to return six inhabitants of equal consideration. Two boats, with an equal number of prisoners, were to put off at the same time from each side of the river, and so on, until the whole were exchanged. Don Francisco Dias, the principal Spanish prisoner, was however detained by the French, because the French officer, who was to have been exchanged for him, was not forthcoming.

On the 15th of March, the pilot-boat, which had brought 150 barrels of flour into the city, sailed for another cargo; and soon afterwards a pilot-boat from America got into the harbour; she had been three months at Charleston, and returned without a cargo. Her bad success augmented the depression of spirits felt by the besieged.

On the 21st of March, 300 of the garrison made a sortie. They returned without having procured any supply.

On the 24th, a small vessel, with provisions, from St. Thomas's, got safe into the harbour; and the same day 450 of the French drove the Spaniards from Galard with some loss: they, however, returned to that position next day; the French attacked them again with success; the Spaniards retreated, and their opponents advanced to Bondille, which they burnt, and also D'Ingombe. On one occasion, in the course of the day, two parties, one French, the other Spanish, mutually mistook each other for friends. The latter party sent a flag of truce to the French, who were the first to discover their error, and fire upon their opponents, without paying any attention to the flag of truce.

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 235, 236. 239, 240. 251. 253, 254. 259.

From the 26th to the 31st, the French, without molestation, collected whatever supplies were to be found in the grounds of Ingombe.

On the 28th, his Majesty's sloop Swallow, with a flag of truce, exchanged the French captain Lavalette for Don Francisco Diaz.

The inhabitants of the city were again reduced to the "gualliga," as their only means of support; the garrison was also daily weakened by the desertion of the Piedmontese soldiers to the Spaniards.

Don Juan Sanchez sent a Captain Campion, whom he had taken prisoner on the 2d of April, back to the city, upon his giving his parole of honour, that if he could not procure the release of the wife of a Piedmontese officer, he would return to the Spanish camp. General Barquier obliged this officer to break his word, pleading as an excuse for so doing, that Don J. Sanchez had not sent him six of the French inhabitants, according to the treaty of the 11th of March.

On the 9th of April, Colonel Vassimon, at the head of 1200 marauders, engaged the Spaniards at Arroyohonde, and returned to the city with four days provisions for the inhabitants. On the same day the Spaniards made an unsuccessful attack upon the French positions on the left bank of the Ozama.

On the 11th, a pilot-boat from the south escaped the blockading squadron, and entered the harbour. At this time the French had only eight days' provisions in the city; she was laden with provisions, and consequently served to prolong the siege.

On the 12th, Colonel Fortier, with 400 men and 1200 women, made a successful sortie, and returned with two days' provisions. The women upon this expedition behaved as gallantly as the men.

At three P.M. on the 13th, the French schooner La Fortunée came sufficiently near the brig blockading the harbour, to make her out, and then stood to the southward for the night. The brig sent her boats in shore, and stood off and on herself. In the night the French sent out ten pinnaces to engage the English boats, and obliged them to retreat to the Bay d'Andre. At daylight on the 14th, all the inhabitants were out watching the Fortunée, who, in the night, had closed with the land to the west of the city, and was working up under the protection of the batteries. The English boats, and two Spanish gun-boats, stood before the wind for her, and the French pinnaces pulled for the same object; the English brig was two leagues to the southward, and unable to render any assistance. At this time, to the great joy of the French, another large schooner, "La Superieure," appeared in sight round Point Jayne, and stood with a fair wind to the assistance of the Fortunée. This reinforcement obliged the boats to haul off, and the city was revictualled for two months.

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 260, 261, 262. 264, 265, 266. 269, 270, 271.

On the 16th, another small vessel with provisions got into the harbour. On the 21st, the English sent a flag of truce on shore, whose principal object seems to have been to communicate the intelligence of the action off the Saints, and the capture of D'Hautpoul. The same day the French general issued a proclamation, calling upon the Spaniards to lay down their arms, and profit by his generous offers of clemency before it was too late; God, he said, had without doubt destined that country to be saved for the French; and he, by being an instrument for that purpose, should by the Spaniards have his name joined in their thanksgivings when they addressed the Eternal.

On the 24th, his Majesty's ship Aurora deceived the garrison by hoisting French colours. They sent off pilots to bring her to an anchor, who were hospitably entertained, and dismissed, after a few enquiries.

Upon St. George's day, a French brig, a prize, passed, with her colours hoisted, as such, within sight of the garrison.

On the 29th, a small schooner, from Curaçoa, stood the English frigate's broadside, and got safe into the harbour.

On the 2d of May, a party of marauders from the city fell in with some Spanish families in a house near the city, halting unsuspiciously with their cattle. The Spaniards urged, that the French general, by his proclamation of the 21st, had ordered them to return to their habitations, and resume their occupations. The next day the general sent to inquire into the truth of the extraordinary fact of the natives believing him. His messengers found that the travellers had pursued their journey.

On the 5th, a privateer got into the harbour with 250 barrels of flour. The same day the Spaniards attacked the advanced posts of the French on the left banks of the Ozama, without success.

On the 6th, the Superieure schooner, which the French considered the fastest sailing vessel in those seas, passed the English cruizers, and got safe in with a cargo of provisions.

On the 7th, the Spaniards sent a flag of truce, with a summons to the French to surrender, who, in their refusal, stated that the Spaniards had a false idea of the situation of the garrison.

On the 11th of May, eleven English line of battle ships took their station off the port, not at all to the satisfaction of the garrison, who began to anticipate more important operations.

On the night of the 13th, a small vessel escaped from the harbour. On the 14th of May, 100 of the garrison made a sortie to reconnoitre; the Spanish advanced guard of 600 men drove them in. At two A.M. on the 15th, 400 of the garrison marched in expectation of surprising the Spaniards, who had changed their position: the party returned without success.

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 272. 275, 276, 277, 278. 282. 287.

On the 16th of May, Captain Cumby sent the following summons to General Barquier:—

" Sir,

" The English squadron, which is under my orders, having arrived here with considerable reinforcements for the army which besieges you, motives of humanity, as well as of respect for the courage shewn by the garrison which you command during a long siege, induce me (before I employ these reinforcements) to summon you, Sir, to surrender the city and the fortifications at present occupied by the troops under your orders, by capitulation, upon such terms as shall be agreed upon by officers appointed for that purpose, subject to the ratification of the respective commandants.

" I have the honour to be, Sir,

" Yours, &c.

" W. Pryce Cumby,

" Captain of his Majesty's ship Polyphemus, and senior officer of the ships and vessels off St. Domingo."

General Barquier replied, by expressing his determination to defend the place to the last extremity.

On the 18th, a small vessel with provisions got safe into the harbour.

On the 22d, 350 of the garrison, under the command of Colonel Aussenac, attempted to drive the allies from the heights of St. Carlos.

On the 28th, at five A.M., the blockade was converted into a regular siege, by the unmasking of a battery of three mortars and two long guns, 450 fathoms from the Ozama redoubt. The Shrapnell's shells caused great slaughter among the French.

On the 29th, from the firing from all directions, the French expected a general attack.

On the 30th, there was not any firing. A party of 150 French were sent to reconnoitre the north of the town.

On the 1st of June, the English boats began to cannonade the city at two A.M.; the guns from the batteries and the arsenal returned the fire. The same day Colonel Aussenac headed a French party that reconnoitred as far as Galinde: they returned in safety.

On the night of the 2d of June, four boats, under the command of a lieutenant of the Polyphemus, entered the harbour, for the purpose of cutting out a privateer, which was understood to have anchored there. The boats got within pistol-shot of the batteries, when the heavy fire of grape-shot and small arms obliged them to retreat; one boat, with forty men, was sunk, and only one man saved out of her; another was obliged to be towed out in a sinking

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Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 291, 292, 293. 296, 297, 298. 484.

state. During the whole of the night the cries of the wounded and drowning crew were heard by the French, who, although all opposition had ceased, waited for daylight before they sent to relieve the sufferers, at which time only one of them was alive; the shore was too steep for the men to climb up. The boat was weighed and got into the harbour by the French.

All firing from the besiegers ceased until the morning of the 7th of June, when it was renewed with increased vigour; four sail joined the English squadron, and measures were taken for more effectually blockading the port, in consequence of a small vessel from Curaçoa having passed through the fleet in the night.

On the 10th, the allies opened their fire from a mortar battery to the west of the town: the garrison suffered dreadfully from it. On the 11th, a schooner came out, as a cartel, with sixty women and children on board; the miserable cargo was taken out by the English, and the vessel sent back into the harbour. The whole of this day a heavy fire was kept up upon the town by all the batteries and the Spanish and English boats. At five in the evening a shell fell into the redoubt on the Ozama, and set fire to some caissons: several of the French were killed and wounded by the explosion. So heavy a fire was kept up on the city during the whole of the night of the 12th, that the inhabitants were obliged entirely to abandon the west and north parts of it, and retire to the east, where the bombs did not reach. The same night a small vessel, with several women and children on board, got out in a thick fog, and made her escape to Curaçoa.

The increased numbers and powers of the besiegers, and the increased sickness and fatigue of the French, began to produce discontent among them; the cannonade continued night and day until the 20th, and every night the English fleet formed a double line round the road. On the 20th, D. Juan Sanchez sent a flag of truce to the French general, to offer him his own terms to capitulate. The offer was refused. On the 22d, the Superieure, a schooner, upon whose safe arrival the French garrison particularly depended for relief, came in sight, and was chased off by an English frigate. On the 13th, the English sent a flag of truce on shore, to accelerate the surrender of the city, by communicating to the French intelligence of the approach of General Carmichael with 1400 English troops, and of the capture of four of the small vessels upon which they relied for relief, and also of the war with Austria. Hunger induced some of the French chasseurs to dispute with the Spaniards in their entrenchments the possession of some pigeons.

On the 24th, the Spanish batteries produced considerable more effect than on the preceding days.

On the 26th, the firing rather slackened. On the night of the 27th, to the great disappointment of the French, the Superieure

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Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 301, 302, 303, 306, 309, 313, 314, 315.

schooner, when within half a league of the harbour, having escaped the greater part of the English fleet, was discovered by the small vessels in shore, and driven off to sea, after a running fight of three hours. The same day General Carmichael, with 1400 men, landed at Palingue.

On the 28th, the French sent a flag of truce on board the Polyphemus. On the 30th, the French general called a council of war, in which it was determined to enter into negotiations with the English for the surrender of the city; officers were sent, in consequence, to treat with General Carmichael. They agreed upon a suspension of arms, and the village of St. Carlos was appointed for the conferences. In the interim, the English placed a body of troops between St. Jerome and the city, and cut off all communication between them. The French complained of the movement as an infraction of the truce; which was defended, as having been ordered before the interview took place.

On the 1st of July, commissioners left the city to negotiate the terms of the capitulation; while this was going on, the French soldiers pursued some flocks of pigeons so close to the positions of the allies, that the English general complained of the irregularity of the proceeding. The negotiations were carried on until the 6th. The detachment under Major Walker, which invested Fort St. Jerome, had orders to storm that place if a gun was fired from the city of St. Domingo. Major Walker misunderstood the orders, and summoned the garrison to surrender at discretion, under pain of being all put to the sword. The French commandant sent a refusal, and complained of the violation of the laws of war to General Carmichael; who replied by a very civil answer, and some bottles of Madeira. On the 7th of July the convention was ratified. At three P.M. orders were sent to surrender Fort St. Jerome; at four, General Carmichael, with his suite and 100 men, entered the fort. The French troops were drawn up to receive him; the English formed opposite to them, and were addressed by General Carmichael in a speech very complimentary to the French; telling his men, that if they one day imitated so fine an example, as he hoped they would, that then they would have done enough for their glory. The French officer thought fit to reply when he delivered up the keys of the fortress, and express his hopes that those keys would not remain long in the hands of the English. The Ozama redoubt was surrendered at the same time, and the gate "Del Conde" of the city was guarded by an equal number of French and English. On the 9th, the English commanding officers dined with General Barquier; and the same day part of the French troops were embarked. The 11th was the day fixed for the English to take possession of the city, and while the last of the French troops were

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Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, pp. 321, 322. 327. 335. 344. 346, 347. 349.

embarking, General Carmichael received the keys of the city on the "Place d'Armes." D. Juan Sanchez arrived soon afterwards, and all the chiefs breakfasted with General Barquier, who had surrendered himself prisoner of war to General Carmichael. Some free Negroes, in the Spanish service, attempted to force an entrance into the city; to quiet the disturbance, at General Carmichael's request, D. Juan Sanchez repaired to the spot, and his presence produced the desired effect.

Some time afterwards the city was evacuated by the English, and delivered up to the Spaniards.[1]

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, p. 352.

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[1] *Convention concluded by the undersigned Commissioners appointed for that purpose by Major General Hugh Lyle Carmichael, Commander-in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Troops at St. Domingo, Commodore Wm. Pryce Cumby, commanding the Naval Forces, and General D. Juan Sanchez Ramirez, Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish Troops on the one side, and the General of Brigade Joseph Barquier, Commander-in-Chief of the French Troops, on the other, for the Evacuation of the City of Santo Domingo and its dependant Forts by the French Troops.*

"Art 1. Reckoning from this day, there shall be a suspension of hostilities between the troops of His Britannic Majesty and the French garrison, for the purpose of effectuating the evacuation of the place of Santo Domingo in the manner, and according to the conditions herein-after mentioned; it being understood, that until the complete evacuation of the place, no post shall be occupied by the troops of His Britannic Majesty, and that no individual from without shall be introduced into the city without a special permission from the commander-in-chief of the troops of his Royal and Imperial Majesty.

"Ans. The suspension of arms between the troops of His Britannic Majesty and his allies on one part, and the French troops on the other, shall take place for the purpose mentioned; but the posts which ought to be given up shall be occupied by the English troops, and the Spanish regiment of Puerto Rico. The commander-in-chief of the troops of His Britannic Majesty will be responsible for the good conduct of the garrisons under his orders.

"2. The French forces of all arms, of which the colonial troops form a part, and all the individuals attached to the army or the administration, shall evacuate the city of Santo Domingo, and the forts dependant upon it, and shall be transported to France at the expense of the British government, and within twelve days at the latest, reckoning from the ratification of these presents. The garrison shall not be prisoners of war.

"Ans. In consequence of the brave defence which the garrison have made, notwithstanding the unheard-of privations which they have suffered, they shall quit the city of Santo Domingo, and the forts which depend upon it, and march to the glacis, with all the honours of war, and this within four days, reckoning from the ratification of these presents. The officers shall keep their swords and shall be sent to France under a promise not to carry arms against Great Britain and its allies during three years at least, except they shall be regularly exchanged. The subalterns and soldiers, upon their arriving at the glacis, shall lay down their arms, and surrender themselves prisoners of war, to be transported to France and to be exchanged. The whole shall be immediately sent to Jamaica, where transports will be furnished, to carry them to the destined port.

3. All the individuals, of whatever sex, condition, or colour they may be, French or Spanish, who wish to quit Santo Domingo, shall, within ten days, be transported, at the expense of the British government, to the United States of America, or to the Windward or Leeward Islands.

"Ans. The French and Spanish inhabitants, who shall take part with the French cause, shall have permission to quit Santo Domingo. A complete amnesty shall be granted to the last for six months, from the date of the ratification of the present, in such a manner that they shall not be called to account for their conduct prior to the capitulation. During that time, all of them shall evacuate the place.

"4. The military and other individuals mentioned in the preceding articles shall carry with them, their baggage, papers, equipments, and moveable property, of

Surrender of the City of St. Domingo.—Vice-Admiral Rowley's Letter to the Admiralty.

" Sir, " Port Royal, Jamaica, 13th July, 1809.

" I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the lords commissioners of the admiralty, that his Majesty's sloop Tweed arrived here last night from off St. Domingo, bringing me

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxii. p. 252.

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whatever kind it may be. It shall be lawful for them to sell it, if they shall not think it convenient to carry with them.

" Ans. All the private property of persons of all descriptions shall be respected, and if any difficulties shall arise in the execution of this article, they shall be settled by commissioners named by the contracting parties, who shall have power to pronounce upon it.

" 5. All the French subjects mentioned in article 3, or actually in the east part of St. Domingo, who may remain there after the evacuation, shall be protected; their moveable property, of whatever kind it may be, shall be respected, and they shall have one year to dispose of it, according to their inclination, by themselves or by their representatives.

" Ans. Granted, upon their conforming to the laws of the country.

" 6. A delay of twelve days shall be granted to the administration, to regulate their accounts; and the commissary charged with the administration, the pay-master and the inspector, shall have means granted them of carrying away all the papers relative to their services.

" Ans. Granted.

" 7. With regard to the lawyer's papers, to those of the civil state or of the domains, two commissioners, taken in the judiciary order, shall be named, to determine whether they ought to be carried away or left, and in case they shall decide that they ought to remain in Santo Domingo, a public functionary shall be named to receive the depôt of these minutes, for which he shall be particularly answerable. He shall be placed under the immediate protection of government.

" Ans. Granted.

" 8. All the sick and wounded soldiers or inhabitants who cannot be embarked, shall be confided to the generosity of the English, and to the care of one or two French surgeons. They are to be maintained by the British government or their allies, upon condition of their keeping an account of the expense until the whole are embarked for one of the French ports.

" Ans. Granted.

" 9. All prisoners of every rank and condition (and particularly M. Daumas) shall be delivered up by both parties, within eight days at farthest after the signature of these presents.

" Ans. Granted, upon condition that the French prisoners which are delivered up shall share the same fate with the garrison, as it is settled by the 2d article; and that the French, on their side, shall surrender the Spanish prisoners which they may have in their power.

" 10. The troops and other persons who shall be embarked in compliance with the present convention shall be victualled during their voyages at the expense of the British government or of their allies.

" Ans. Granted. An allowance shall be supplied them according to the English regulations.

" 11. All the difficulties or disputes which may arise with regard to the present convention, shall be amicably settled by the commissioners named by both parties.

" Ans. Granted.

" 12. From the moment of the signature of these presents, and of the suspension of hostilities which shall follow, hostages shall be given on both sides.

" Ans. Hostages appear to be unnecessary; the honour of the contracting parties ought to be a sufficient guarantee.

" 13. All French vessels of war or of commerce, or belonging to a neuter or allied power, which shall arrive at the harbour of Santo Domingo during the twenty days which immediately follow the evacuation of that place, shall not be considered good prizes, but shall be at liberty to return with their crew and cargoes, furnished with a passport from the English commandant.

" Ans. Refused.

" 14. The English government shall grant a fast-sailing cartel to carry the present convention, and the dispatches of the commander-in-chief, to France.

" Ans. This article ought to be referred to Vice-Admiral Rowley, commander-in-chief of His Britannic Majesty's vessels upon the Jamaica station.

a dispatch from Captain Cumby, of the Polyphemus, announcing the surrender, on the 6th instant, of the French troops, composing the garrison of that city. Their lordships will have been made acquainted already by my former letters with a detail of the proceedings of the squadron, placed under Captain Cumby's orders, for the purpose of co-operating with the Spanish troops investing the city, and with those belonging to his Majesty, which sailed from this island on the 7th ultimo, under the command of Major-General Carmichael, and the enclosed copy of the dispatch above mentioned will make known to them the proceedings of the squadron down to the period of capitulation, and the terms on which the garrison has surrendered.

" The exemplary vigilance and unremitted exertions of the officers and men, composing the crews of his Majesty's ships and vessels named in the margin[1], employed during this short but rigor-

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxii. p.252.

" 15. Immediately after the ratification of these presents, Fort Aussenac (formerly called Fort St. Jerome) and the Ozama redoubt shall be delivered up to the troops of His Britannic Majesty and his allies, and the French garrisons shall quit them with the honours of war, to join the rest of the garrison in the city.

" Ans. The ratification ought to take place as soon as possible, and, at the latest, by noon to-morrow; and further, the gate Del Conde shall be occupied by a detachment, half English, and half of the regiment of Puerto Rico, and by a French detachment of the same force. The rest of the present article is granted.

" 16. Commissioners shall immediately be named to accelerate the execution of the present convention, and to receive the artillery of the place and the forts; the magazines, plans, and other articles which the French government leaves to the British government and to its allies.

" Ans. A report shall be prepared upon the state of the forts, and of the city; of the ammunition, merchandize, and treasure belonging to the French government, or to the companies under its protection, which shall be verified and signed by the commissioners who shall be charged with the execution of the present capitulation.

" Done in duplicate, at Santo Domingo, the 6th of July, 1809.

(Signed) " M. Duer, Captain of the Royal Navy.
" Chris. Myers, Lieutenant-Colonel 72d regiment, Deputy Quarter-Master General.
" Man. Cabellero Jose Joaquim del Monte Vassimon, Colonel 50th regiment, Light Infantry.
" Fabore, Commissaire de Marine, Chief of the Administration.

" Ratified the 7th day of July.
(Signed) " J. Barquier, Commander-in-chief of the French troops.
(Signed) " Hen. Lyle Carmichael, Major-General, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Forces before the city of Santo Domingo.
(Signed) " W. Pryce Cumby, Captain of his Majesty's ship Polyphemus, and senior officer of the squadron off the harbour of Santo Domingo.

" Ratified by me, Governor-Intendant, and General commanding the Spanish Forces, the 7th of July, 1809.
(Signed) " Juan Sanchez Ramirez.

" A true copy.
(Signed) " La Martelliere, the Marine Commissary, Secretary-General to the Government."

Précis de la Revolution de Santo Domingo, par G. Guillemin, Paris, 1811, pp. 337—343.

[1] Polyphemus, Aurora, Tweed, Sparrow, Thrush, Griffin, Lark, Moselle, Fleur de la-Mer, Pike.

ous blockade, under the immediate orders of Captain Cumby, have contributed most essentially to accelerate the reduction of this last possession of the enemy on the Jamaica station.

" The fullest testimony is borne by Major-General Carmichael, to the cordial support which he received from them after the arrival of the British troops, and I have no doubt that the conduct of Captain Cumby, and that of the officers, seamen, and marines, under his orders on the service, will be distinguished by their lordships' approbation, as it has already been by mine.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" B. S. ROWLEY, Vice-Admiral."

" SIR, " Polyphemus, off the city of St. Domingo, 7th July, 1809.

" I have the satisfaction to announce to you the surrender of the French garrison in the city of St. Domingo, by which event the whole of the former possessions of the Spaniards in this island are happily restored to the Spanish nation. In detailing the operations which led to this result, subsequent to my letter of the 30th ultimo, I have to inform you that, on the following day, I anchored at Caleta, and, in compliance with a request from Major-General Carmichael, put eight of this ship's lower deck-guns on board the Sparrow sloop, to be landed at Palenqui, for the use of the batteries to the westward of the city. In the mean time the major-general, and troops under his command, had advanced with all the ardour and activity that characterize British soldiers in their approach to the enemy, and taken post at the church of St. Carlos, nearly within musket-shot of the walls, and had cut off the communication between the city and Fort Jerome. The general commanding the French garrison, having sent off a flag of truce, proposing a cessation of hostilities for three days, I beg leave to transmit you copies of his letter and my reply. On the 2d instant I received a communication from Major-General Carmichael, that the French general had made a formal proposal to treat for the surrender of the garrison, and I accordingly directed Captain Duer, of his Majesty's ship Aurora, to proceed on shore, and, in concert with commissioners to be deputed by the major-general and the general commanding the Spanish forces, arrange the terms of capitulation. The very severe squalls and rainy weather we have since experienced, so much interrupted our communications with the shore, that the different articles could not be adjusted till the 6th, and this day they have been ratified, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose.

" This dispatch will be delivered to you by Captain Symonds, of the Tweed, to whose zealous attention in conducting the sloops, schooners and guard-boats, during a close and rigorous blockade of two months, I owe considerable obligation; and although the

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services of the squadron you did me the honour to place under my orders, may not have been of a brilliant nature, I trust I may be permitted on this occasion to bear testimony to the unremitting perseverance with which the vessels maintained the stations assigned them, through all the variety of weather incident to the season, on a steep and dangerous shore, where no anchorage was to be obtained, as well as to the vigilance and alacrity of those officers and men who were employed in the night guard-boats, by whose united exertions the enemy's accustomed supply by sea was entirely cut off, and the surrender of the city greatly accelerated. I must also, in justice to Captain Burt, of the Sparrow, beg permission to state the great promptitude, zeal, and ability evinced by that officer in the landing the lower deck-guns from this ship, under circumstances of great difficulty and labour; two of which he transported from Andre Bay to the east battery, a distance of near thirty miles across an almost impassible country, prior to the arrival of the troops.

" Of the conduct of Lieutenant Denman, of this ship, and the detachment of seamen landed from the squadron under his orders, the major-general is pleased to speak in high terms, and I have no doubt he will make a gratifying representation to you on this subject. The posts of Fort Jerome and Fort de l'Ozama, and the gate de Conde, are occupied by the British troops this evening; and I shall lose no time in making the necessary arrangements for embarking the garrison, in number about 1200, on board the squadron, and dispatch them for Port Royal with all possible expedition.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" W. PRICE CUMBY, Captain."

" To Vice-Admiral Rowley, &c. &c."

" SIR, " Head-quarters at St. Domingo, 30th June, 1809.

" If you should think it proper, a suspension of hostilities may be established for three days, with a view to facilitate the communications between us. You may be persuaded of the frankness of my intentions. I send to you in consequence Mr. Fabore, commissary of the marine, and Lieutenant-Colonel Evrard, who will convey to me your reply to my proposal.

" I have the honour to be,

" J. BARQUIER."

" I have the honour to apprize you, that I am about to send an officer to his excellency General Carmichael, with a proposal to the same effect.

" J. BARQUIER."

" To Captain Cumby, R.N., &c. &c."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxii. p. 254.

" Polyphemus, off the city of St. Domingo, 30th June, 1809.

" Sir,

" In reply to your letter of this date, proposing a cessation of hostilities three days, I beg to state, that I conceive no advantage whatever could possibly result from such a measure, neither can I, for one moment, agree to it, but in concurrence with Major-General Carmichael and the general commanding the Spanish troops. There will be no difficulty on my side in opening communication whenever a white flag is hoisted at the city, unless it should be done at the moment of attack.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" W. P. Cumby, Captain."

" His Excellency Gen. Barquier,
Commander-in-Chief, &c."

Capture of Cayenne.

" His Majesty's ship Confiance, Cayenne
Harbour, 15th Jan. 1809.

" Sir,

" My last letters to you of the 26th ult. informed you of the arrival of the Portuguese troops at Approaque. On the 4th inst., it was determined by Lieutenant-Colonel Manoel Marques and myself, to make a descent on the east side of the island of Cayenne. Accordingly all the troops were embarked on board the small vessels, amounting to 550, and 80 seamen and marines from the Confiance, and a party of marines from the Voador and Infante brigs. On the morning of the 6th all dropt into the mouth of the river.

" In the evening I proceeded with ten canoes and about 250 men, to endeavour to gain possession of two batteries; the one Fort Diamant, which commands the entrance of the river Mahuree, the other Grand Cane, commanding the great road to the town of Cayenne. The vessels with the remainder of the troops I entrusted to Captain Salgado, of the Voador, with orders to follow me after dusk, to anchor in the mouth of the river Mahuree, and wait until I gained the before-mentioned batteries; when, on my making the signal agreed on, he was to enter the river and disembark with all possible dispatch. I reached Point Mahuree at three o'clock next morning, with five canoes; the others being heavy could not keep up. We then landed in a bay half way between the two batteries. The surge was so great that our boats soon went to pieces. I ordered Major Joaquim Manoel Pinto, with a detachment of Portuguese troops, to proceed to the left, and take Grand Cane; while myself, accompanied by Lieutenants Mulcaster, Blyth, and Read (of the royal marines), Messrs. Savory, William Taylor, Forder, and Irwin, proceeded to the right with a party of the Confiance, to take Fort Diamant, which was soon in our possession, mounting two twenty-four and one brass nine-pounder, and fifty men. I am

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sorry to add, that Lieutenant John Read, of the royal marines, a meritorious young officer, was mortally wounded, as also one seaman and five marines badly. The French captain and commandant, with three soldiers, killed, and four wounded. The major had the same success; the fort mounting two brass nine-pounders and forty men; two of the enemy were killed.

"The entrance of the river being in our possession, the signal agreed on was made, and by noon all were disembarked. At the same time I received information of General Victor Hugues having quitted Cayenne, at the head of a thousand troops, to dispossess us of our posts. Our force being too small to be divided, and the distance between the two posts being great, and only twelve miles from Cayenne, it was determined to dismantle Fort Diamant, and collect all our forces at Grand Cane. I therefore left my first lieutenant, Mr. Mulcaster, with a party of the Confiance, to perform that service, and then join me. On arriving at Grand Cane, I perceived two other batteries about a mile up the river, on opposite sides, and within half gun-shot of each other; the one on the right bank called Treo, on an eminence commanding the creek leading to Cayenne; the other at the opposite side, at the entrance of the creek leading to the house and plantation of General Victor Hugues, and evidently erected for no other purpose than its defence. At three o'clock I anchored the Lion and Vinganza cutters abreast of them, when a smart action commenced on both sides for an hour; when finding the enemy's metal and position so superior to ours, the cutters having only four-pounders, and many of our men falling from the incessant shower of grape-shot, I determined to storm them, and therefore directed Mr. Savory (the purser) to accompany a party of Portuguese, to land at General Hugues' battery; at the same time proceeding myself, accompanied by Lieutenant Blyth, my gig's crew, and a party of Portuguese troops, to that of Treo; and though both parties had to land at the very muzzles of the guns, keeping up a continual fire of grape and musketry, the cool bravery of the men soon carried them, and put the enemy to flight; each fort mounted two brass nine-pounders and fifty men. This service was scarcely accomplished, before the French troops from Cayenne attacked the colonel at Grand Cane. Our force then much dispersed, I, therefore, without waiting an instant, ordered every body to the boats, and proceeded to the aid of the colonel, who, with his small force, had withstood the enemy; and after a smart action of three hours, they retreated to Cayenne. At the same time 250 of the enemy appeared before Fort Diamant; but perceiving Lieutenant Mulcaster prepared to receive them, and imagining his force much greater than it was, they, on hearing the defeat of their general, followed his example. There was yet the

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strongest post of the enemy to be taken, which was the private house of General Victor Hugues; he had, besides the fort abovementioned, planted before his house a field-piece and a swivel, with an hundred of his best troops. It is situated on the main, between two and three miles in the interior, at the end of an avenue the same length from the river, on the right of which is a thick wood, and on the left the creek Fouille. I have also to remark that there is nothing near appertaining to government, or for the defence of the colony.

"On the morning of the 8th I proceeded, accompanied by Lieutenant Mulcaster, Messrs. Savory and Forder, with some seamen and marines of the Confiance, and a party of Portuguese troops, with a field-piece, to take the said post; but as my only object was to take the troops prisoners, by which the garrison of Cayenne would be much weakened, I despatched Lieutenant Mulcaster in my gig, with a flag of truce, to acquaint the officer commanding, that my only object was to take the post, for which I had force sufficient; and though I might lose some men in taking it, there could be no doubt as to the result; I therefore requested, for the sake of humanity, he would not attempt to defend a place not tenable; but that I was determined if he made a useless resistance in defending a private habitation, against which I gave him my honour no harm was intended, I should consider it as a fortress, and would level it to the ground, The enemy's advanced guard allowed the flag of truce to approach them within a boat's length, then fired two vollies at them and retreated. I then landed; but reflecting it was possible this outrage was committed from the ignorance of an inferior officer, I sent Lieutenant Mulcaster a second time, when, on his approaching the house, they fired the field-piece at him. Finding all communication that way ineffectual, yet wishing to preserve the private property of a general officer, who was, perhaps, ignorant and innocent of his officer's conduct, I sent one of the general's slaves to the officer with the same message, who returned with an answer that any thing I had to communicate must be in writing; at the same instant he fired his field-piece as a signal to his troops, who were in ambush on our right in the wood, to fire, keeping up a steady and well-directed fire from his field-piece at the house. It was my intention to have advanced with my field-piece; but finding he had made several fosses in the road, and the wood being lined with musketry, not a man of whom we could see, and the field-piece in front, I ordered ours to be thrown into a fosse, when our men, with cheers, advanced with pike and bayonet, took the enemy's gun; they retreated in the house, and kept up a smart fire from the windows; but on our entering they flew through the back premises into the wood, firing as they retreated. Every thing

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was levelled with the ground, except the habitations of the slaves. As we received information that about 400 of the enemy were about to take possession of Beauregard Plain, on an eminence which commands the several roads to and from Cayenne, it was determined between the lieutenant-colonel and myself to be before-hand with the enemy, and march our whole force there direct. We gained the situation on the enemy on the 9th, and on the 10th, Lieutenant Mulcaster and a Portuguese officer (Lieutenant Bernardo Mikillis) were sent into the town, with a summons (No. 1.) to the general. In the evening these officers returned, accompanied by Victor Hugues' aid-de-camp, requesting an armistice for twenty-four hours, to arrange the articles of capitulation. This being granted, and hostages exchanged, on the 11th the lieutenant-colonel and myself met the general, and partly arranged the articles. A second meeting on the morning of the 12th finally fixed[1] them

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[1] *Capitulation, proposed by Victor Hugues, Officer of the Legion of Honour, Commissioner of his Majesty the Emperor and King, Commander-in-Chief of Cayenne, and French Guyana, and accepted by James Lucas Yeo, Post Captain in His Britannic Majesty's Service, commanding the combined Naval English and Portuguese Forces, and Manuel Marques, Knight of the Military Order of Saint Benvit d'Avie, Lieutenant-Colonel-in-Chief and Director of the Corps of Artillery of Para, commanding the advanced Army of the Portuguese.*

" Although the advanced posts have been carried, and that the commissioner of the Emperor and King is reduced with his garrison to the town, he owes it to those sentiments of honour which have always distinguished him, to the valour and good conduct of the officers and soldiers under his command, to the attachment of the inhabitants of the colony for his Majesty the Emperor and King, to declare publicly that he surrenders less to the force than to the destructive system of liberating all the slaves who should join the enemy, and of burning all the plantations and posts where there should be any resistance.

" The commissioner of the Emperor, commanding in chief, after having witnessed the burning of several plantations, particularly his own, the most considerable in the colony, had attributed it at first to the casualties of war, and the disorgnization of the gangs, and the liberation of the slaves appeared to him a momentary nuisance; but being assured in writing that the English and Portuguese officers acted in virtue of the orders of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent; and in wishing to save the colony from total destruction, and to preserve his august master's subjects, who have given him so many proofs of their attachment and fidelity, the commissioner of His Imperial and Royal Majesty surrenders the colony to the forces of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the following conditions: —

" Art. 1. The garrison shall march out with their arms and baggage, and all the honours of war; the officers shall retain their side arms, and those of the staff their horses. The garrison shall lay down their arms, and engage not to serve against his Royal Highness, and his allies, during one year.

" 2. Vessels shall be furnished at the expense of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to carry the garrison, the officers, civil and military, and all those employed in the service, with their families and effects, direct to France, with as little delay as possible.

" 3. A convenient vessel shall be furnished to convey to France the commissioner of the Emperor commanding in chief, his family, his officers, his suite and effects, the chief of the administration of finances, the commander of the troops, the inspector, and the commandant of the artillery, with their families.

(No. 2.); and on the morning of the 14th, the Portuguese troops and British seamen and marines marched into Cayenne, and took possession of the town. The enemy, amounting to 400, laid down their arms on the parade, and were immediately embarked on board the several vessels belonging to the expedition; at the same time the militia, amounting to 600, together with 200 Blacks, who had been incorporated with the regular troops, delivered in their arms.

" It is with pleasure I observe, that throughout the expedition the utmost unanimity has prevailed between the Portuguese and

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" 4. A convenient delay shall be granted to the officers who have property in the colony, to settle their affairs.

" 5. The arsenals, batteries, and every thing belonging to the artillery, the small arms, and powder magazines, and the provision stores, shall be given up by inventory, and in the state in which they now are, and the same shall be pointed out.

" 6. The slaves on both sides shall be disarmed, and sent to their respective plantations. The French Negroes, whom the commanders by sea and land of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent have engaged for the service during the war, and to whom, in virtue of their orders, they have given their freedom, shall be sent out of the colony, as they can only remain there in future an object of trouble and dissension. The commanders engage, as they have promised, to solicit of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent the replacing of those slaves, or an indemnity in favour of the inhabitants to whom they belong.

" 7. The papers, plans, and other articles belonging to the engineer department, shall be equally given up.

" 8. The sick and wounded, who are obliged to remain in the colony, may leave it, with all that belongs to them, as soon as they are in a situation to do so; in the mean time they shall be treated as they have been hitherto.

" 9. Private property, of whatsoever nature or description, shall be respected, and the inhabitants may dispose of it as heretofore.

" 10. The inhabitants of the colony shall preserve their properties, and reside there, conforming to the orders and forms established by the Sovereign under which they remain; they shall be at liberty to sell their properties, and retire wherever it may suit them, without any obstacle.

" 11. The civil laws known in France under the title of the Napolean code, and in force in the colony, shall be observed and executed until the peace between the two nations; the magistrates shall only decide on the interests of individuals, and differences connected with them, in virtue of the said laws.

" 12. The debts acknowledged by individuals during or previous to the time fixed by the preceding article, shall be exacted agreeably to the basis determined by the same article.

" 13. The papers concerning the controul and matriculation of the troops shall be carried away by the quarter-master.

" 14. Desirous of preserving the spice plantation, called La Gabrielle, in all its splendour and agriculture, it is stipulated that neither it nor any of the plantation trees or plants shall be destroyed, but that it shall be preserved in the state in which it is given up to the commanders of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

" 15. All the papers of the stores, of inspection, of the customs, or of any responsibilty whatever, shall be deposited in the secretaries' office, or in any other place that may be agreed on, to be referred to when there is occasion: the whole shall be under the seal of the two governments, and at the disposal of His Imperial and Royal Majesty.

" 16. The present capitulation shall be written in the three languages, and signed by the three officers stipulating.

" At the advanced posts of Bourde, this 12th January, 1809.

" VICTOR HUGUES.
" JAMES LUCAS YEO.
" MANUEL MARQUES."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. pp. 340, 341.

The insolence of the preamble to this capitulation is characteristic of Victor Hugues.

British, and I have myself experienced the most friendly intercourse with Lieutenant-Colonel Manoel Marques.

" The conduct of Captain Salgado, of the Voader, in the post I assigned him, was that of a zealous and energetic officer; and I feel I should do him an injustice, were I to withhold my testimony of his merit. I must also acknowledge, with satisfaction, the services of Lieutenant Joze Pedro Schultz, who landed the Voader's marines, and indeed every individual belonging to the Portuguese squadron.

" It has always been, with the highest gratification to my feelings, that I have had to mention the good conduct of the officers, seamen, and marines of the ship I have the honour to command, but during the whole course of my service I have never witnessed such persevering resolution as they have displayed from the commencement of the campaign to the reduction of Cayenne.

" To my first lieutenant, Mr. William Howe Mulcaster, I feel myself principally indebted for the very able support I have received from him throughout, though it was no more than I expected from an officer of his known merit in the service.

" Lieutenant Samuel Blyth continued his exertions, notwithstanding his wounds, and the assistance I derived from his active intrepidity can never be forgotten.

" I must here pay a tribute to the memory of a very zealous and gallant young officer, the late Lieutenant John Read, of the royal marines. His conduct was always exemplary, and whenever we landed, his exertions were most strenuous. He was mortally wounded, as before observed, in leading the marines into Fort Diamant. His memory will long be cherished by his brother officers.

" To Mr. Thomas Savory, the purser, who has made himself remarkably useful on various occasions, and who, from my having so few officers on so detached a service as this has been, was of the greatest utility to me, I feel myself much indebted.

" Mr. Jamas Larque, master's mate, to whom I gave charge of the gun-boat, No. 1, conducted her much to my satisfaction; and James Thompson, gunner's mate, who had charge of the gun-boat, No. 2, is entitled to an equal share of commendation.

" To Messrs. William Taylor, carpenter; George Forder, and David Irvine, midshipmen; Mr. Thomas Silvester, assistant-surgeon, who gave particular attention to the wounded, my warmest thanks are due. It is but just that I should take notice of the exertions of Mr. J. Acott, (acting) master, who has passed for lieutenant, whom I left in charge of the ship, and who proved himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. The Topaze,

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French frigate, appeared in the offing on the 13th, with a reinforcement for the garrison, though with only twenty-five Englishmen, and twenty Negroes, and no other officers than two young gentlemen, Messrs. George Yeo and Edward Briant, he contrived, by his skilful manœuvres, to drive her off the coast.

" As to the seamen and marines, all praise I can bestow falls short of their merit. From the 15th of December they never slept in their beds; the weather was constantly both boisterous and rainy; the roads almost impassable; and from the time we landed until the surrender of the place, they had not the least cessation from fatigue.

" I have the honour to enclose a statement of the killed and wounded on board the Confiance (twenty-four), also a list of the returns of ordnance, stores, &c. The Portuguese land and sea forces, one killed and eight wounded; French, one captain and fifteen privates killed, and twenty wounded.

" I have now, Sir, the happiness to congratulate you on the final success of the expedition, and I trust the steps I have taken will insure me your approbation.

" I am, &c.

" JAMES LUCAS YEO."

" To Rear-Admiral Sir W. S. Smith, K.S.
Commander-in-Chief, &c."

Capture of Martinico.

" Neptune, off Martinico, 4th February, 1809.

" SIR,

" Having, on the 20th of January, received a letter from Lieutenant-General Beckwith, informing me, that in consequence of some alteration of circumstances, he was induced to proceed on the attack of Martinico, and expressing a wish to see me at Barbadoes, in order to make the final arrangements, I lost no time in meeting him there for that purpose; and having embarked all the troops, I committed the principal landing of the army intended to be put on shore at Bay Robert, to Captain Beaver, of his Majesty's ship Acasta, who had Lieutenant-General Beckwith, the commander of the forces, with him; Major-General Sir George Prevost, commanding the division, being embarked on board the Penelope. By the enclosed letter from Captain Beaver, their lordships will see that he completed this service, with his usual ability, on the 30th of January, and morning of the 31st, whilst the other division, under Major-General Maitland, was landed on the 30th at St. Luce, under the superintendence of Captain Fahie, of the Belleisle, who had formed the most judicious arrangements for the purpose.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. pp. 317. 340.

" About 600 men were detached on board his Majesty's ship York, under the command of Major Henderson, of the Royal York rangers, to take possession of the battery at Point Solomon, in order to secure a safe anchorage for the men-of-war and transports. After effecting this, the rangers pushed on, and invested the fort of Pigeon Island, on which a mortar was brought to bear so early as the 1st instant; but not finding the fire of that sufficient, nine others, including howitzers, were landed, five of which were got up to the top of a commanding height, by the very great exertions of Captain Cockburn, of the Pompée, and the seamen under his orders, who ably gave support to Brigadier-Generals Sir Charles Shipley and Stehelin, in completing the batteries, which opened last night, at six o'clock, with such effect as to oblige the enemy to capitulate this morning; and 136 persons that were in the fort, surrendered themselves prisoners of war. Our loss consisted of two seamen killed, and one soldier of the Royal York rangers wounded; the enemy's, of five killed and several wounded.

" In order to cut off the retreat of the enemy, I previously sent the Æolus and Cleopatra frigates, and the Recruit sloop of war, to the upper part of Fort Royal Bay. When this was perceived, the enemy set fire to and destroyed the Amphitrite frigate, of forty-four guns, and all the shipping in the harbour; having, on our first landing, burnt the Carnation at Marin, also a corvette at St. Pierre's on the following night.

" The army, under Lieutenant-General Beckwith, having advanced towards the heights of Surirey, fell in with the enemy on the 1st instant, who was defeated with considerable loss; since then two actions have taken place, which have given to his Majesty's forces possession of the before-mentioned heights, commanding Fort Bourbon. The enemy, upon this, abandoned the lower fort, or Fort de France, having destroyed the guns, and from the different explosions I suppose they have blown up the magazines.

" Major-General Maitland reached Samantin on the 2d, without opposition, and has since formed a junction with the lieutenant-general. I am now moving the squadron to the Fort Royal side of the bay, so as to embrace the double view of an early communication with the head-quarters of the army, and affording the supplies necessary for the siege of Fort Bourbon on both sides.

" From the zeal which has manifested itself in each service, I make no doubt but the batteries will soon be in a fit state to open upon the enemy, and, I hope, before long, that I shall have the satisfaction to communicate to their lordships that the fort has surrendered.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxii. p. 317.

" The militia, who were forced to serve, have returned to their homes.

" I have the hoour to be, &c.

" Hon. W. W. Pole." " Alex. Cochrane."

" Sir, " His Majesty's ship Acasta, Bay Robert, 21st Jan. 1809.

" I have the honour to inform you, that at day-dawn of yesterday the division of transports carrying the army, under the command of Lieutenant-General Beckwith, were four leagues to windward of the Carvel Rock. I immediately bore up with it for Bay Robert, being joined in my way thither by the Ethalion, Forrester, Ringdove, Haughty, and Eclair; the Eurydice having joined me the preceding evening.

" The weather was uncommonly windy and squally, and there was a very considerable swell as far out as Loup Garou. Neither of the small frigates (the Cleopatra or Circe) had joined, to go in with the transports; and, not knowing what opposition might be made to a landing, I determined to enter the Cul de Sac with all the men-of-war, that I might effectually protect the landing if occasion required, which I could not possibly have done had I anchored as far out as Loup Garou.

" Having therefore placed boats with flags at a graplin under the edges of the shoals, I led in with the Acasta, followed by the Penelope and transports, and anchored the whole of them about noon.

" This decision, I trust, Sir, you will approve, as it enabled me to land the first and second brigades, amounting to 4500 men, with a certain proportion of artillery and horses, before sun-set, which I could not otherwise have done; and this morning, by seven o'clock, all the reserve were landed.

" To Captains Cochrane of the Ethalion, and Bradshaw of the Eurydice, I am indebted for arranging the boats for the first landing, and more particularly to Captain Dick of the Penelope, for superintending that arrangement, and leading in the transports, which he did with great judgment.

" From Captain Withers, the principal agent for transports, I received all that assistance in the various arrangements which I had to make, which could be expected from an officer of great zeal and clear comprehension; and Lieutenant Senhouse, whom you did me the honour to appoint as my adjutant for this expedition, rendered me very essential service in carrying on the detailed duties of the squadron.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" P. Beaver."

" To the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, &c."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 320.

On the 5th of February, the admiral wrote again :—

"Sir,

"Having left Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, about noon, on the 28th of January, with the expedition for the attack of this island, I had the pleasure, on the evening of the same day, to meet with his Majesty's ship Cleopatra, and the French frigate La Topaze, in company, when Captain Pechell gave me the letter, of which the enclosed is a copy, stating the manner of her capture; and on my arrival off here, the Hazard joined, with Captain Maude of the Jason's report, which I also enclose.

"Captain Pechell, in the Cleopatra, from his advanced position, closed the enemy first, and bore the brunt of the action. He placed his ship in a situation to attack with advantage, and in such a manner as did credit to his intrepidity and judgment, and evinced also the high state of discipline and steadiness of his officers and crew.

"Captain Maude of the Jason lost not a moment in getting into action, and I had every thing to expect from his zeal and gallantry, which I have witnessed for a series of years.

"Particular credit is also due to Captain Cameron of his Majesty's sloop Hazard, for boldly chasing, with a determination to bring to action, an enemy's frigate of the largest class, before any of the other ships were in sight.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"Alexander Cochrane."

"His Majesty's ship Cleopatra, off Basse Terre,
Guadaloupe, January 23d, 1809."

"Sir,

"In consequence of separating from his Majesty's ship Jason, and there being no probability of communication either with Captain Maude, or Captain Pigot of the Latona, and senior officer of the blockading squadron, I beg to inform you, that yesterday, in obedience to the signals made to me by Captain Maude, I chased a ship in the N. N. W., which I shortly afterwards made out to be a French frigate, who, on seeing us, hauled close in shore, and anchored under a small battery, a little to the southward of Point Noir. Having ascertained that they were securing her (by springs on her cables, and others fast to the trees on shore) as well as her situation would permit, I made every preparation for attacking her, the wind being at this time, from the southward and westward, but very light and variable; at half-past two P. M. we got the true breeze, and turned up to windward, till within a cable's length of the shore, and

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 318.

Captain Dashwood, of his Majesty's ship Franchise, off Guadaloupe, 15th January, captured L'Ephigenie, of six guns and twenty-six men, French letter of marque.

On the 3d of August, his Majesty's sloop Lark upset in a gale of wind, and Captain Nicholson and all the crew perished, except J. Dobson and two black men, who were picked up by the Mozelle sloop.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 322.; *Edinburgh Annual Register*, 1809, p. 290.

half musket-shot distant from the enemy, which was effected at five o'clock, when his firing commenced. I saw, from the shape of the land and the shoal water between us, that I could not close without danger of being raked; I was therefore obliged to anchor in six fathoms and a half, and returned his fire, which fortunately cut away his outside spring, when he swung in shore with his head towards us, giving us the advantage I refused him before; this I so effectually preserved, that he never afterwards got more than half his broadside to bear. We thus engaged for forty minutes, when the Jason and Hazard came up; the former having taken a position on her starboard quarter, and firing her bow-guns, the Hazard at the same time directing her's to the fort, the enemy hauled down his colours, finding he was not able to sustain so unequal a combat.

" She proves to be the French national frigate Topaze, carrying forty-eight guns, eighteen, twenty-four and thirty-six pounders, commanded by Mons. Lahalle, capitaine de frigate, with a complement of 330 men; she has been from Brest forty-seven days, and had on board 100 troops, and 1100 barrels of flour, for Cayenne, but meeting with superior force off that port, she was obliged to push for Guadaloupe.

" Our loss is comparatively small with that of the enemy, having only two killed and one wounded, as his guns were chiefly pointed at our masts and rigging, which he succeeded in cutting very much, most of our fore and main rigging shot away; and had we been under sail, must have lost our main-top-mast; on the other side, twelve killed and fourteen wounded, as near as can be ascertained; for the instant her colours were hauled down, one third at least took to the water, and several were either killed or drowned in attempting to effect their escape.

" Having thus, Sir, given you the detail, it becomes a pleasing duty to me to represent the zeal with which Captain Cameron of the Hazard offered his services before the action, and had the wind allowed him to get up sooner, would have attacked the fort, and thereby prevented many of the troops getting on shore.

" I am happy, also, in having an opportunity of bearing testimony to the gallantry displayed by the officers and crew of his Majesty's ship under my command; and beg leave to recommend my first lieutenant, Simpson, to their lordships' notice; also Lieutenants Puckingham and Lambert, as good officers, and every way deserving their lordships' favour.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" SAM. JOHN PECHELL."

" Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane, Bart."

Captain Maude's letter does not contain any additional information.

Naval Chronicle, vol xxi. p. 319.

Sir A. Cochrane to the Hon. W. W. Pole.

" SIR, " Neptune, Fort Royal Bay, Martinico, Feb. 25th, 1809.

" By my letter of the 18th, a duplicate of which accompanies this, together with one of the 4th, the lords commissioners of the admiralty will have been informed, that it was intended to open a fire on the enemy from four batteries on the succeeding day, in addition to his own guns turned upon him from Fort Edward; which was accordingly done at half-past four in the afternoon, the time appointed.

" The enemy at first returned the fire with spirit, but it gradually slackened until the following morning, and then entirely ceased, except at long intervals, which made it evident he was beaten from his guns.

" While the batteries were kept constantly firing on the enemy on the western side, Captains Barton and Nesham, of the York and Intrepid, with about 400 seamen and marines, continued to be employed in getting the heavy cannon, mortars, and howitzers up to Mount Surirey from the eastern side of the fort, which was a service of the utmost labour and difficulty, owing to the rains and deepness of the roads; but notwithstanding which, a battery of four twenty-four-pounders and four mortars was finished by the 22d, and the guns mounted ready for service.

" On the following day several more guns were got up, and ready to be placed in an advanced battery, intended to consist of eight twenty-four-pounders; a similar battery was preparing to the westward, and the whole would have been in a state to open on the enemy by the 26th, had not a flag of truce been sent from the fort on the 23d, with proposals for a surrender, on the principle of being sent to France on parole; but Lieutenant-General Beckwith, the commander of the forces, and myself, not judging it proper to accede to such terms, the batteries, which had before opened their fire, recommenced the attack at half-past eight o'clock in the evening, and continued it without intermission during the night.

" The next morning, a little past six o'clock, one of the magazines in the fort blew up with a great explosion, and soon afterwards three flags of truce were hoisted by the enemy, and hostilities ceased on our part.

" A letter was then received from the Captain-General Villaret Joyeuse, requesting that commissioners might be appointed on both sides to settle the terms of capitulation, which was agreed to; and Lieutenant-General Sir G. Prevost and Major-General Maitland were named by the commander of the forces, and Commodore Cockburn by me. These officers were met by the general of artillery Villaret (the captain-general's brother), and Colonels Montfort and Boyer, in a tent erected for the purpose between the advanced

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 323.

piquets on each side, when the terms were settled and ratified before midnight; a copy of which I have the honour to enclose.[1]

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 323.

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[1] *Articles of Capitulation between Lieutenant-General George Beckwith, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces, and Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir Alex. Cochrane, K. B., Commander-in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Squadron, upon a joint Expedition against the French Colony of Martinico, on the one part, and General Villaret, Captain-General in the Service of France, on the other part.*

" Fort Desaix shall be given up to the troops of His Britannic Majesty on the following conditions:

" Art. 1. The garrison of Fort Desaix shall march out in order to be embarked and conveyed to one of the ports of France, between Bourdeaux and L'Orient, on the days and at the hours which shall be agreed upon, with all the honours of war, viz. drums beating, colours flying, and matches lighted, having in their front four field-pieces, with their artillery men. The officers, civil and military, of the marine, and every one belonging to this department, shall be also conveyed to the same port.

" Ans. The garrison shall march out with all the honours of war demanded, but must ground their arms beyond the glacis. Officers shall keep their swords. In answer to the rest of this article, it is agreed that the forces of France shall be embarked in proper vessels as prisoners of war; that they shall proceed to Quiberon Bay, under guard of some English ships of war. There an exchange shall take place between the two nations, rank for rank; but from the high respect and esteem with which his excellency the Captain-General Villaret Joyeuse is held by all, it is admitted, that himself and his aides-de-camp shall be sent to France free from any restriction.

" 2. The captain-general, the colonial prefect, the general officers, and those of the staff, of the artillery and engineers, the officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the land service, the officers, troops, and crews of the navy, the chief of the civil staff, the commissaries, and others employed in the administration of the marine and colonies, shall carry away their arms, their personal effects, and every thing belonging to them; they shall besides have leave to dispose of their private property of every kind, and full security assured to the purchasers.

" Ans. Granted, excepting in what it differs from the answer to the preceding article.

" 3. The garrison shall be embarked, at the expence of His Britannic Majesty, by battalions and companies; each person belonging to the military, or officer or other person employed in the civil staff, shall receive, during the passage, the ration allowed to each rank according to the French laws and regulations.

" Ans. Granted, but to be victualled according to the English ration.

" 4. The necessary number of carriages and boats for transporting and embarking the personal effects, papers, and other property of the captains-general, of the colonial prefect, of the general officers, commissaries, and chiefs of corps, of the officers of the administration of the land and sea service, and particularly the papers of the council of administration of corps, of the paymaster of the colony, and of other persons in civil and military employments. These papers shall not be subject to any search or inspection, under the guarantee that they contain nothing foreign to the public duties of these agents.

" Ans. Granted; it being understood that this is not to protect public papers or property.

" 5. The sick and wounded, as well as those in the hospitals at the period of the attack of the colony, as well as those who have since entered them, shall be attended at the expence of His Britannic Majesty until their cure, and shall share the fate of the garrison. Those who are able shall be embarked along with it. The sick and wounded remaining shall be confided to the honour of the English commander. A sufficient number of French officers of health, and an officer of the civil staff, shall remain to take care of them.

" Ans. Granted.

" 6. The garrison of Pigeon Island, as well as all others, officers and agents of the military civil staff, who are at this moment out of Fort Desaix, shall share the fate of the garrison, and shall be sent back to France in the same manner.

" Ans. It is not objected that the garrison of Pigeon Island shall be treated in the same manner as the rest of the garrison.

" 7. The fortifications of Fort Desaix shall not be demolished until after a treaty

"This morning a detachment of troops took possession of the Bouillé redoubt, and the ravelines and gateway of Fort Bourbon,

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 323.

of peace to be concluded between the two powers.

"Ans. The British government alone can reply to this article.

"8. There shall be prepared a report of the state of the fort, of its establishments and magazines, which shall be formally compared and signed by the commissioners charged with the execution of the present capitulation.

"Ans. Granted.

"9. As soon as the present capitulation shall be concluded, the redoubt of Bouillé shall be occupied, partly by English and partly by French troops. Their number shall be regulated by the commissioners. The French garrison shall continue to occupy Fort Desaix until its embarkation, having its communication with the town free. The period and the mode of evacuating it shall be regulated by the commissioners. The sick and wounded actually within Fort Desaix shall be removed to the Hospital de France, and the means of transport shall be provided for this purpose. The garrison, until the moment of embarking, shall be subsisted from their own magazines, and by the French agents.

"Ans. Granted; but it is required that possession should be given also of the Sally Port of the north front, and of the Demi Lune, as soon as the articles are ratified by the respective commanders in-chief.

"10. The officers and all others employed in the military or civil service who are married, may take on board with them their wives and children. Those who have property or business in Martinico shall be permitted to remain there six months. The English commanders will give them every protection for this purpose during their stay in the colony. They shall afterwards share the fate of the garrison, and be conducted to France at the expence of His Britannic Majesty.

"Ans. Granted, and those officers who remain for a time shall be assisted with passages as convenient.

"11. The officers of health, and all others who have been attached for the moment, and by order, to the service of the French army, shall be permitted to return to their homes without being molested.

"Ans. Granted.

"12. The colonists and inhabitants who wish to follow the fate of the garrison, and to go to France with their property, shall be permitted to do so. All the individuals, of whatever nation they may be, who are inhabitants of the isle of Martinico, shall not be troubled, molested, or questioned on account of their political opinion. Those who have been arrested under this pretext shall be immediately set at liberty.

"Ans. Granted.

"13. The persons and property of all the inhabitants of the island of Martinico shall be respected. The laws which are there actually in force shall be maintained until a peace between the two nations. The organization of the tribunals shall remain as it actually stands. The exercise of the Catholic religion shall be preserved in its present state. Its ministers shall be protected and respected. The national property appropriated for their maintenance shall be strictly applied to that purpose.

"Ans. Granted; subject to such alterations as His Britannic Majesty may judge necessary.

"14. In consideration of the state of distress to which the colony is reduced, the inhabitants shall remain exempt from all taxes for two years.

"Ans. Not granted; but every consideration will be had for the state of the colony.

"15. The general-in chief of the French army shall be permitted to send immediately an officer to his Majesty the Emperor and King, with the account of the present capitulation. A vessel shall be provided by the English admiral to convey this officer to Bourdeaux, Rochefort, or L'Orient.

"Ans. Granted

"16. If any doubt should arise as to the meaning of any article, it shall be interpreted in the most favourable manner for the French garrison.

'Ans. Granted.

"17. Hostages, of the rank of field officers, shall be delivered on the part of the English army and fleet, and on the part of the French army, for the reciprocal guarantee of the present capitulation. The officer of the English army shall be restored when the articles relative to the on the land side; and the garrison (a return of which, as well as the rest of the prisoners taken since the commencement of the siege, is enclosed,) will be embarked in the course of eight days in transports, and his Majesty's ships Belleisle and Ulysses will proceed with them as a guard to Europe.

" I now beg leave to congratulate their lordships on the happy termination of a siege, which was, by the uncommon exertions of the army and navy, brought to a close within twenty-eight days from the sailing of the expedition from Barbadoes.

" The fire kept up by the batteries was irresistible; the enemy was driven from his defences, his cannon dismounted, and the whole of the interior of the work ploughed up by the shot and shells, within five days after the batteries opened.

" Never did more unanimity prevail between the two services than on the present occasion; one sentiment, one wish, pervaded the whole, and they looked with confidence to a speedy and glorious termination of their toils.

" I had on this service the happiness to act with Lieutenant-General Beckwith, an officer I have long been in the habits of intimacy with, from whose zeal I had every thing to expect, and which the recent events have so fully realized. He did me the honour to consult me on various occasions, and his communications and co-

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garrison have been executed, and the officer of the fleet after the debarkation of the troops in France, the same shall take place on the part of the French garrison.

" Ans. No hostages are necessary.

" 18. His excellency Admiral Cochrane shall be invited to receive on board the line-of-battle ships and frigates of his excellency the captain-general, the colonial prefect, and the other officers of the French army.

" Ans. Granted, and a ship of war will be provided for the captain general and his suite.

" 19. The embarkation of the French troops shall take place at soonest in eight, and at furthest in fifteen days, according as his excellency Admiral Cochrane can prepare the transports.

" Ans. Granted.

" 20. The articles of the present capitulation shall be ratified as soon as possible, and not later than this evening at ten o'clock.

" Ans. The present capitulation is signed by the commissioners appointed by Lieutenant-General George Beckwith, commander of the forces of His Britannic Majesty, and by Rear-Admiral Sir Alex. Cochrane, K. B., commander-in-chief of His Britannic Majesty's squadron, on the one part, that is to say, Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Bart., Major-General Maitland, and Commodore Cockburn; and of the commissioners appointed by General Villaret, captain-general in the service of France, on the other part, that is to say, the General of Brigade Villaret Joyeuse, Colonel Montfort of the 82d regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel Boyer, chief of the staff.

" Done at the advance posts, this 24th day of February, 1809.

" George Prevost, Lieutenant-General.
" Fred. Maitland, Major-General.
" G. Cockburn, Commodore.
" Villaret Joyeuse, General of Brigade.
" Montfort, Colonel 82d regiment.
" Boyer, Chief of the Staff.
(Ratified.)
" Geo. Beckwith.
" A. Cochrane.
" Villaret, Captain-General."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. pp. 327, 328, 329.

operations were friendly and cordial, which, on all conjunct expeditions, is the surest pledge of success.

" I have already informed their lordships, that I entrusted the whole of the naval arrangements on shore to Commodore Cockburn. His exertions have been unremitting, and his merit beyond my praise. He speaks in terms of high approbation of the able support and assistance he received from Captains Barton, Nesham, and Brenton, whom I had selected to act with him. To all these officers, and the lieutenants, and other officers, petty officers, seamen, and marines, immediately under their commands, I feel truly obliged, for performing the arduous duties imposed upon them. The seven-gun battery at Folville was entirely fought by seamen, from which the enemy suffered severely.

" I have also the fullest reason to be thankful to the other officers and men of the squadron employed on the blockade and reduction of the island, for their general activity and emulation.

" I subjoin a list of the several returns and papers which I have been able to collect, and send herewith. For any other information, I beg to refer their lordships to Captain Spear, of the Wolverine, an old and deserving commander, whom I have entrusted with this despatch.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" Alex. Cochrane."

" Prisoners, 14 superior officers, 141 officers, 1827 subalterns and soldiers, 242 seamen.

" The English had 6 killed and 19 wounded, belonging to the navy.

" *List of the Squadron employed in the Reduction of Martinico.*

" *Ships of the Line.*— Neptune, Pompée, Belleisle, York, Captain, and Intrepid.

" *Frigates.*— Acasta, Penelope, Ethalion, Æolus, Circe, Ulysses, and Eurydice.

" *Sloops, &c.* — Goree, Wolverine, Cherub, Stork, Amaranthe, Haughty, Express, Swinger, Forrester, Recruit, Star, Eclair, and Frolic.

(Signed) " Alex. Cochrane."

" The capture of Martinico, though of such essential importance to the security of our islands, which, while the enemy possessed its ports, were always liable to be pillaged by their running squadrons, was nevertheless regarded by our West India planters and merchants as detrimental to their interests, and at their suggestion a bill was brought in for making the sugar and coffee of this new

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. pp. 324, 325.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1809, p. 383.

conquest and of Mariegalante liable to duty on importation, as if they had not been the growth of a British plantation. The bill was carried, notwithstanding its mischievous tendency was pointed out in a very able manner by Mr. Marryat. He argued, ‘ that the exclusion of Martinico produce would be no benefit whatever to the British planter, because the market which he was to look up to was Europe, not Great Britain alone. The quantity of sugar brought to Europe governed the price of the commodity here, for the demand from abroad must increase in proportion to the increased quantity, which, being diverted from the foreign markets, finds its way to ours. But while this exclusion was nugatory as to any good which the planters expected from it, it would be highly injurious to the British sugar refiner. An act had lately been passed, permitting the exportation of refined sugar in a crushed state, so as to imitate the French clayed sugars, and nearly two-thirds of the whole quantity of refined sugar exported during the last year was of that description. But if the clayed sugars of Martinico were to be imported for exportation alone, they would supply the place of these crushed lumps on the continent, and the British plantation sugars, from which this imitation was now made, must necessarily be left a dead weight upon the home market. Now,’ said Mr. Marryat, ‘ I cannot comprehend how the price of sugar would be more depressed by bringing those clayed sugars into the home market, than by leaving those raw sugars upon the market, which are now manufactured in imitation of them, and exported. The clayed sugars of Martinico are peculiarly calculated for making a certain description of refined sugar known by the name of Hamburgh loaves, which circulate all over the continent with the greater facility in the present state of things, because, being made in such moulds as are used at Hamburgh, it is impossible to distinguish them from the goods of the foreign refiners. Four fifths of the whole quantity of refined sugar now exported consists of the crushed lumps and the Hamburgh loaves. If we export all the Martinico clayed sugars, they will supersede the demand for the first, because foreigners will prefer the originals to the copies, and they will also supersede the demand for the second, because we shall give the foreign refiners the exclusive right of using the choicest and best materials from which they can be manufactured. Thus the export trade of our refiners will be reduced to one fifth of its actual amount by the operation of this bill, and nearly one third of the refiners at present at work in London will be thrown out of employment. The value and importance of the sugar-refinery in this country,’ Mr. Marryat continued, ‘ might not perhaps be sufficiently understood. The buildings and utensils employed in it occupied a capital of about two millions, and a much larger capital was necessary for carrying it on. The annual

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expenditure in the trade was about one million. Some idea might be formed of the employment which it furnished to the potteries, by the fact, that 80,000 pots and moulds might be found in a single sugar-house in London, and that a very large proportion of the whole quantity in use was annually consumed by breakage. The manufactory possessed this rare advantage, that both the raw material which it worked up, and all the articles used in carrying it on, are the growth, produce, and manufacture of Great Britain and her colonies. This was the trade which the present bill would injure to the point of ruin, and was there ever a more preposterous idea conceived, than that of raising the value of a raw commodity by ruining those who manufactured it.

" 'Another argument yet remained to be urged. They had been told in our proclamation, that the sources of their prosperity should be renewed, their ancient laws restored, and that government, the protector of persons and properties, to which they had formerly been subject under the British flag, would be re-established in the colony. If there be any meaning in words,' said Mr. Marryat, 'these words convey a general assurance that they would be replaced in that situation in which they stood while under the British government. Looking to this, they have willingly received if not invited us. This the proclamation has promised them, and upon that proclamation they stand as their magna charta and their bill of rights. I might remind the house that we took Guadaloupe during the last war by the assistance of the inhabitants, and were driven out of it again in consequence of having alienated their affections; but I will not make this a question of policy,— I stand upon the good faith and honour of the British nation.' In spite of these powerful arguments, the opinions of the planters and merchants prevailed, and the bill was passed."

Lord Castlereagh called the attention of the House of Commons to the services of the army and navy in the West Indies in the conquest of Martinico. "It was," he said, "a proud circumstance for this country, that whilst we had an army of 50,000 men on the continent of Europe, government had been able to collect a force of 10,000 men for offensive operations, without detaching any troops from Europe. Though the gallantry of the troops had been most distinguished, there was one circumstance which peculiarly characterised this conquest, namely, that from the effectual measures taken by the officers of health, the object of the expedition had been accomplished with less loss by disease than at any former period. Every favour too, consistent with the interests of the public, had been shewn to the inhabitants of Martinico, who had behaved with the greatest goodwill towards the captors." The noble lord concluded by moving the thanks of the house to Lieutenant-General George Beckwith, for the entire conquest of Mar-

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tinico, to Sir A. Cochrane, K. B., for his able disposal of the naval force under his command for the attainment of this object, to Lieutenant-General Prevost, Major-General Maitland, Brigadier-General Houghton, Commodore Cockburn, and those under his command, and that the approbation of the house should be signified to the non-commissioned officers, and to the sailors and marines concerned. Agreed to nem. con.

Capture of the Saints.

" My Lord, " Fort Royal, Martinico, April 20th, 1809.

" The French squadron, consisting of three sail of the line and two frigates, from L'Orient, having taken shelter in the Saints, in the vicinity of Guadaloupe, where they were blockaded by Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane, with a superior force, I detached a corps of between 2000 and 3000 men, under the command of Major-General Maitland, to co-operate with the navy in the reduction of those islands, to destroy or capture the ships of the enemy, or to force them to sea.

" I have the satisfaction to report to your lordship, for his Majesty's information, that after three days of great toil and most active service, the forts were reduced, and the troops surrendered prisoners of war.

" The French ships of the line pushed to sea early on the night of the 14th. On the 16th, the admiral was within four miles of them, and, I trust, will be enabled to bring them to close action.

" I have the honour to enclose the major-general's report upon the honourable termination of this service; and I beg leave to recommend to his Majesty's favourable consideration, the meritorious services of this general officer, not only in the present instance, where he held a distinct command, but for his general good conduct during the whole campaign.

" The officers of all ranks have done their duty in an exemplary manner, and the troops employed upon this service have maintained that superiority which has distinguished this army during the whole series of our operations since our departure from Barbadoes.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" The Right Hon. Lord Viscount
Castlereagh, &c." " Geo. Beckwith."

" Sir, " Camp at the Saints, April 18, 1809.

" I have the honour to transmit you a report of the proceedings of his Majesty's troops detached for the reduction of the Saints.

" We sailed from Fort Royal Bay on the 12th; Captain Beaver, of his Majesty's ship Acasta, who was commodore of the division, left the squadron under charge of Captain Carthew, of his Majesty's

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Naval Chronicle, Gazette Letters, vol. xxi. p. 501.

ship Gloire, and went forward to meet Rear-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane. The 13th was passed in examining the enemy's positions, and in making arrangements.

" The disembarkation was fixed to be at six o'clock in the morning of the 14th, but a bad night separated our ships. By ten they were collected. Soon after the Acasta led in, through a very narrow channel, which was buoyed on each side; the Gloire, Narcissus, and Circe followed, the Intrepid about an hour after, but the Dolphin not until next day. His Majesty's ships anchored opposite to the little bay Bois Joly. The landing was meant to have been at the next to the eastward, called Ance Vanovre. As much time, it was then seen, would be lost by persevering to go to Ance Vanovre, because the boats would have had a long row against wind and current, we landed at Ance Bois Joly, a secure landing, though a stony beach, protected by the fire of the frigates. We experienced no opposition except a cannonade from the islet of Cabrit, the guns of which fired over the ridge among the shipping.

" When advanced to the first ridge, we found the enemy occupied the great mountain, which is above 800 feet high, called Mount Russel. This was immediately on our right, nor could we advance. The rifle companies of the third and of the fourth battalions 60th regiment, were ordered to dislodge the enemy. The exertion of these companies, under Captains Dolling and Lupton, was great; the ascent no less steep than an angle of fifty degrees, covered with bush and prickly pears; they most gallantly effected the service, and drove back the enemy, who suffered considerably. The rifle companies were supported to their right by the flank companies of the 3d West India regiment, and one company of the Royal York rangers, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, deputy adjutant-general, whom I detached for this service. We had now a strong position. Before us were the enemy's three forts, showing stout garrisons, and three line-of-battle ships and two frigates in the harbour. The large ships were full of men. We found, however, we could not advance without being flanked on our left by the fort on Isle de Cabrit. Two eight-inch howitzers were immediately landed, and a battery quickly constructed by Lieutenant Hobbs of the royal engineers. Brigadier-General Stehelin, of the royal artillery, and all his officers and men, were most strenuous; and before six that evening our battery opened on the enemy's squadron at a very fair distance. About an hour after there were indications that the French squadron was about to push out, and by eight it was not doubtful. Not a moment was lost; Captain de Courcy, of the quarter-master-general's department, was sent by me to Captain Beaver, of the Acasta, and we fired six rockets from a headland, at five minutes interval, being the signal fixed on by the admiral. About ten at night, the three French line of battle ships were seen to

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 502.

go through the windward passage. Next morning, the 15th instant, the Intrepid was the only line-of-battle ship in sight.

" The difficulty of advancing on the west side of the island, forced us to reimbark the greater part of our troops, to land at Ance Vanovre; but as the enemy occupied a strong and commanding position on the east side of this bay, Lieutenant-Colonel Prescot, with the flank companies of the 3d West India regiment, and the two rifle companies of the 60th, and Major Henderson, with the reserve, were ordered to descend from Mount Russel to protect the landing and to dislodge the enemy. This was well executed, and we gained a favourable position, whence our mortars could reach Fort Napoleon at a proper distance, as well as the fort on the islet. A mortar battery, of two thirteen-inch and four ten-inch, was immediately begun, and carried on with unremitted exertions, all our men volunteering every labour. Between the enemy's forts Napoleon and Morelle and us was a middle ridge, which was on the back of the town, and held by the enemy. On the night of the 15th, a strong picquet of the enemy was surprised by two companies of the Royal York rangers, commanded by Captain Starke and Lieutenant White. The French had one officer and seventeen men bayonetted, and twelve prisoners were brought away. This affair was highly creditable to the officers named. The night following we determined to occupy the middle ridge, and confine the enemy within his works. Major Alen was ordered, with the two flank companies of the 3d West India, and a flank company of the 8th West India, for this service; he was supported by part of the Royal York rangers, under Major Henderson. The position was taken up without opposition; but about eight next morning the enemy advanced from Forts Napoleon and Morelle to recover this ground. A sharp action took place; the whole of the York rangers, and the rifle companies of the 60th, supporting our black troops. The ground lay open in great part to the grape shot from forts Napoleon and Morelle, and to round shot from Islet de Cabrit; but all our troops were undaunted; none were more brave or active than the flank companies of the 3d West India regiment, and a flank company of the 8th West India, under Major Alen. The enemy was driven back with loss, and our possession of the ground completely secured. On this occasion our loss was about thirty men killed and wounded.

" I omitted to say, that the two French frigates, both loaded with flour, took their chance of escaping on the forenoon of the 15th. They went through the windward passage, keeping a little from the wind to gain the shore of Guadaloupe. The leading frigate was engaged by his Majesty's ship Intrepid. This frigate, however, doubled the point of Vieux fort, was followed by the other, and both escaped into Basse Terre.

"About the middle of the day yesterday, the 17th, the French commandant, Colonel Madier, sent a flag of truce to enter into terms. They expected what we would not concede, and they submitted to what we were willing to grant.[1] They are prisoners of war.

"I understand their number to be from 700 to 800; of this number, 600 were landed by the French squadron.

"We are to take possession of the forts this evening at four o'clock. The French troops will be immediately embarked, and I shall proceed to carry the remainder of your orders into execution without loss of time. But I must not conclude my report without doing justice to the merits of those whom I have been so happy as to command.

"The navy have most cordially supported us. Captain Beaver,

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 503.

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[1] *Articles of Capitulation proposed by Colonel Madier, Member of the Legion of Honour, Commandant of all the Saints, to Major-General Maitland, commanding the troops of His Britannic Majesty, and Captain Beaver, of his Majesty's Ship Acasta, senior naval officer. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, Deputy Adjutant-General, and Captain Mercier, of the 66th Regiment, in the Service of France, being appointed Commissioners, agreed upon the following Terms:* —

"ART. 1. All the troops shall march out with all the honours of war.

"2. They shall be prisoners of war, and conveyed to England.

"3. The officers shall equally be considered as prisoners of war upon their paroles of honour, to be transported to England until exchanged. They shall retain their swords.

"ANS. 1, 2, and 3, granted.

"To be carried into execution between twelve and four o'clock.

"Arms to be deposited outside of the different forts, and the troops to embark immediately after.

"4. The troops shall retain their personal baggage.

"ANS. Granted.

"5. The officers shall also retain their private baggage.

"ANS. Granted.

"6. All the officers regularly employed in the administration, and medical officers, shall not be considered as prisoners of war; they shall be sent to Guadaloupe, with their private baggage.

"ANS. Granted.

"7. Private property shall be respected, and the inhabitants shall return to their houses.

"ANS. All inhabitants possessing property in the Saints, who are not soldiers in the service of France, may return to their houses, and shall not be molested as long as they conform to the laws of the colony.

"All private property shall be respected, and every individual treated with the liberality and good faith of the British nation.

"8. Whatever is doubtful in these articles of capitulation shall be construed in favour of the inhabitants.

"ANS. Granted.

"*Additional Article.* — An officer of artillery, and one civil officer, shall be appointed from each side, who will meet at this spot to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, in order to take a list of all military stores and other public property. They shall be given precisely in the state they are at this moment.

"Subscribed by us at the Saints, the 17th day of April, 1809.

(Signed) "N. CAMPBELL, Lieutenant-Colonel and Deputy-Adjutant-General.
"MERCIER, Captain 66th Regiment.

"Ratified,
"FRED. MAITLAND, Major-General.
"P. BEAVER, Captain of his Majesty's ship Acasta, and senior officer at the Saints.
(Signed) "M. MADIER, Colonel Commandant les Isles des Saintes."

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 504.

The English had six killed and sixty-eight wounded.

of his Majesty's ship Acasta, has increased that character which I know his conduct at Bay Robert, Martinico, in your presence, gained him. His arrangement and presence of mind render him particularly qualified for joint operations. Captain Carthew, of the Gloire, and Captain Malcolm, of the Narcissus, also merit the warmest acknowledgments; and I am also much obliged to the Honourable Captain Bertie, of his Majesty's ship Dart, who acted on shore. The royal artillery, under Brigadier-General Stehelin, have continued their usual spirited manner. If the enemy had not capitulated yesterday, we should have opened a fine battery of six mortars; and, I am certain, from what happened at Martinico, our artillery would have given them enough of it in one night.

" To Lieutenant-Colonel Rial, 15th regiment, I with pleasure acknowledge the assistance I have received from him. He tantalized me with an offer to take Fort Morelle by assault with the 15th regiment, the morning of yesterday, during the action. Lieutenant-Colonel Prevost deserves equal good report. Major Henderson, who commands the reserve, is a true soldier; and Major Alen, 3d West India regiment, gallantly led his black troops.

" The staff have all been active. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, deputy-adjutant-general, has been always forward; he is an officer who must rise from his merit.

" The Honourable Captain de Courcy, of the quarter-master-general's department, has shewn an activity and exertion which does him great credit, and proves him to be an officer for service.

" Lieutenant Hobbs, royal engineers, yields to no one in work, and is an admirable officer for a service of this nature. The medical department has been ably conducted by Doctor Burke.

" I have been much assisted by Colonel Soler, the royalist, a man inflexible in loyalty.

My aide-de-camp, Captain Taynton, 64th regiment, will have the honour to deliver this dispatch to you; he has been many years with me; I wish I could get him the promotion his merit deserves.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" F. Maitland, Major-General."

" His Excellency Lieutenant-General Beckwith."

" P.S. I enclose the necessary returns. There are fourteen pieces of artillery and four mortars, eighteen in all, in Fort Napoleon alone."

" Sir, " Neptune, off the Mona Passage, the 17th April, 1809.

" Having in my letter, (No. 637.) dated the 7th instant, informed the lords commissioners of the admiralty, of the arrangements that had been made between Lieutenant-General Beckwith and me for the reduction of the Saints, and, if possible, to secure the French squadron of three ships of the line and two frigates, then at anchor there, which it is ascertained were sent to this country expressly for the relief of Martinico; I have now the honour to acquaint you, for their lordships' information, with our subsequent proceedings, which have been attended with the capture of Le D'Hautpoult, a fine new ship, of seventy-four guns, of the largest class.

" The troops, under the command of Major-General Maitland, arrived at the Saints on the 13th instant, and were landed the following day with little loss; the direction of all naval operations connected with the army having been left entirely with Captain Beaver, of the Acasta, who conducted that service with all the correctness and celerity which I expected of him.

" On the afternoon of the same day two howitzers and mortars began to play upon the enemy's ships; and I received information that one of the line had weighed one of her anchors, but that the others did not appear to be preparing for sea.

" I must here call their lordships' attention to the situation of the Saints, which have three passages the enemy could escape through, and these being situated in different directions made it particularly difficult to guard by five ships of the line, so as to bring an equal force to meet the enemy at either point.

" At half-past nine in the evening, the concerted signal was made for the enemy's ships having put to sea; but the signals were for their having gone both to windward and to leeward of the islands, which was literally the case, as I am informed the two frigates proceeded one way, and the three line-of-battle ships the other.

" The Neptune, being at the time off the south-west passage, made sail to join the Pompée stationed under the west end, which ship I found had closed with, and was in chase of three ships, apparently standing to the W.S.W., but from their appearance in the dark I did not suppose them to be of the line.

" At this time I was particularly at a loss how to act, for if those ships should be the enemy's small men-of-war, and the line-of-battle ships, reported to be preparing for sea, should remain behind, the withdrawing of the squadron from the Saints would have been fatal to the troops landed the preceding day. The night was very dark, and it was not possible to determine whether the whole of the ships making off were of the line or not, although we crossed so near the sternmost, that her shot struck the Neptune, and killed one man and wounded four. When day-light approached they were clearly discovered, and every endeavour used to come up with them, the Pompée being the only line-of-battle ship in company, and the frigates not joining until the following day. Some ships were seen from the mast-head, to whom I sent to signify, by a sloop of war, the course we were steering.

" The superiority of the enemy's sailing, left little chance for the Neptune getting up, unless some of the ships were disabled, and if

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 435.

any accident had happened to the Pompée's masts, they must inevitably have all escaped; I therefore directed Captain Fahie to endeavour to cripple the sternmost ship, without bringing on the collected fire of the three, then in line abreast. In this attempt he was most gallantly supported by Captain Napier, of his Majesty's sloop Recruit, who kept close up, although fired at from all their stern-chace guns, and did every thing that was possible to be done to cut away the enemy's masts and rigging, and continued on this service during the whole chase, which lasted until this morning at half-past three, when Le D'Hautpoult was brought to action by the Pompée and Castor, as will more fully appear by Captain Fahie's letter here enclosed.

" I should not render justice to that excellent officer was I to withhold the praise due to him for his unremitted attention during so long and arduous a pursuit, and his taking such advantages of the enemy's situation as they occasionally occurred.

" I have much to regret in the loss of those that have fallen and suffered on the occasion, a list of whom is enclosed.

" As the other two ships of the enemy separated on the morning of the 17th at two o'clock, their route cannot be well ascertained, I suppose they made sail to the southward, and will pass through the Sombrero passage. They had outsailed this ship so much as to be at too great a distance to be observed when they parted, we of course followed the Pompée's lights. I am now waiting, until the Pompée and the prize are refitted, to proceed to windward; and I have detached the York and Captain, with two frigates and a sloop of war, to the northward to try to intercept the enemy's two ships that have escaped.

" Until their lordships' pleasure is known, I have commissioned the prize, and appointed Captain Napier to the command of her, as a reward for his spirited conduct during the chase.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To the Hon. W. W. Pole." " ALEX. COCHRANE."

" SIR, " His Majesty's ship Pompée, April 17th, 1809, Cape Rexo, Porto Rico, N.E. by N. seven or eight leagues.

" Having, in obedience to your orders communicated to me by telegraph at 5 P. M. on the 14th inst., proceeded under the lower Saint, for the purpose of watching the enemy's motions should they attempt to escape from thence to the northward, I observed, soon after nine o'clock, the signal from the small ships and brigs more in shore, under the orders of Captain Cameron, of his Majesty's sloop the Hazard, that the enemy had put to sea; those signals were repeated to you; and at forty minutes after nine o'clock, the lower Saint bearing east about a mile and a half, I distinctly saw three large ships coming down under all sail, and followed closely

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by the Hazard and several others of the inshore squadron, with the signal for their being the enemy. At ten o'clock I closed up with the sternmost ship, and endeavoured to stop her, by the discharge of two broadsides, but being under a press of sail, and a strong breeze steering away W.S.W., she succeeded in crossing us, without returning our fire. At this moment the Neptune was seen in the S.W. standing towards us with all sail, and as you hailed me afterwards, and joined in the pursuit, it is unnecessary for me to touch on any of the occurrences on board this ship from that period until five o'clock P.M. of the 15th instant, at which hour we entirely lost sight of the Neptune from the mast-head, the Latona and Castor then in company, and one of the enemy's ships about three miles a-head, steering away N.W.½N.

"Our exertions to close her continued unremitted. Just before sunset the high land of Porto Rico was seen bearing N.N.E. about nine leagues. The night shut in extremely dark, and as we drew in with the land, we were baffled with light and variable winds from the northward and westward, but fortunately never for a moment lost sight of the enemy. At half-past three A.M. the Castor succeeded in getting within shot of him, and soon after began a smart cannonade, which was immediately returned by the enemy, who, in yawing to bring his guns to bear, gave me an opportunity of ranging up abreast of him. At four o'clock I brought him to close action, and continued hotly engaged with, and constantly nearing him, until a quarter past five, when both ships being complete wrecks in their rigging and sails, and within their own lengths of each other, the Pompée nearly unmanageable, and the enemy entirely so, she surrendered.

"I must here, Sir, express my obligations to Captains Pigot and Roberts, of his Majesty's ships Latona and Castor, for their attention during the chase, and their spirited efforts to afford me their support in the battle. The latter, as I have already stated, had a partial opportunity of doing so; and, I am assured, that the want of opportunity alone prevented my receiving it equally from the former. And it may not be improper here, Sir, to go back to the occurrences of the 15th instant, in order to express my admiration of the gallant conduct of Captain Napier, of his Majesty's brig the Recruit, in keeping within the fire of the stern chasers of three sail of the line throughout that day, and constantly annoying them with his.

"To the officers and crew of his Majesty's ship under my command, my warmest thanks are due for their unabated and cheerful exertions throughout so long and anxious a chase, and for their steady and gallant conduct during the action; to Mr. Wm. Bone, the first lieutenant, I must particularly offer them.

"The captured ship is the D'Hautpoult, of seventy-four guns, commanded by Captain Armand Le Duc, chevalier of the legion of

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxi. p. 437.

honour, with a crew of six hundred and eighty men; between eighty and ninety of whom were killed and wounded, including several officers. She is a perfectly new ship, never at sea until she quitted L'Orient in February last.

"Enclosed is a return of killed and wounded on board his Majesty's ship under my command, together with that of the damages sustained in her masts, yards, sails, rigging, &c.

"I have, &c.

"To the Hon. Sir A. Cochrane, &c." "W. C. Fahie."

"Total killed on board the Pompée, nine killed and thirty wounded; on board the Neptune, one killed and four wounded; on board the Castor, one killed and six wounded; on board the Recruit, one wounded."

In May, his Majesty's ship Fylla chased a French privateer into a creek in the Isle of Pines, and sent her boats after the Frenchmen, who had run their vessel on shore; and about 100 of them, from among the rocks, kept a constant fire of musketry upon the boats, and obliged them to retreat, and return on board. At midnight, the second lieutenant, with sixty men, set off, and landed in Sandy Bay, ten miles along the coast, where they made out the enemy's position by a smoke, and in five divisions marched to the attack, and succeeded in surprising the enemy, who fled in every direction; the English burnt their hut, and brought out the privateer. No names are given in this unofficial account.

On the 12th of April, Hugh Elliot, Esq. was appointed captain-general and governor-in-chief of his Majesty's Leeward Caribee Islands.

On the 15th of May, Lieutenant-General Edward Morrison was appointed commander-in-chief of his Majesty's forces in Jamaica and its dependencies.

On the 10th of June, the Honourable John Broderick was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of Martinico.

The Jamaica report returns the number of slaves to have been 323,714.

A general order was issued by the British government to the governors of the West Indies, commanding them not to give their assent to any law relative to religion, till they had first transmitted a draught of the bill to England, and had received his Majesty's approbation of it. The assembly of Jamaica resented this interference so violently, that the Duke of Manchester, the governor, was obliged to dissolve them. The corporation of Kingston, however, availing itself of a clause in its charter, continued its career, in defiance of the well-known sentiments of his Majesty.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxii. p. 189.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1809, vol. ii. p. 331.
Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves.—Appendix.
Watson's Defence of Methodist Missions, 1817, p. 76.

Ann Higgins, of Jamaica, (see 1807) brought a "homine replegiando" against a Mr. Rutherford, for the recovery of her children. "She was defeated by evidence on Mr. Rutherford's part, representing her to have been the daughter of a female slave belonging to himself. The defence, though ultimately found to be false, on this occasion succeeded. The mother, therefore, would have been for ever deprived of her children, if she had not again found friends to enable her to prosecute, and, after near four years of obstinate litigation, to bring on to trial another 'homine replegiando,' at which the liberty of the three infants was at length finally established."

On the 27th of January, George Burgess, a private in the 2d West India regiment at Jamaica, was, by the sentence of a court-martial, condemned to be shot for desertion; the night previous to his execution he told Mr. Campbell, the chaplain of the regiment, that he had much of great importance to the white people of the island upon his mind, which he wished, before he quitted this world, to disclose to the commander-in-chief. He was, in consequence, taken to the general, who sent him, with some police officers and some soldiers, about ten o'clock at night on the 7th of March, to Kingston, where they succeeded in securing a considerable number of Negroes, against whom he had given information, before morning. They were taken to a magistrate's house and examined, and the fact of the existence of a conspiracy, for the purpose of revolutionizing the island, was soon ascertained. On the 1st of April, a slave court assembled to try the offenders, whose commander-in chief, a Negro, named Peter Watkins, with the title of duke, and Sambo John, a captain, were both found guilty, and sentenced to be hung the same evening. Previous to their execution they confessed their crime, and acknowledged the justice of their sentence.

George Burgess, at the intercession of the magistrates, was pardoned by the commander-in-chief.

When a slave runs away, as a matter of course, he will try to get off the island where his oppressor resides; the doing so, or attempting or conspiring to do so, was, by an act passed this year in Jamaica[1], made punishable with *death;* his accessory, if a slave, is

Stephens' Defence of the Register Bill, p. 49.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1809, vol. ii. p. 150.
Stephens on West Indian Slavery, p. 289.

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[1] *Heads of the Act of the Legislature of Jamaica* 50 *Geo.* 3. *Cap.* 16. *Passed 14th December* 1809.

"PREAMBLE.—Slaves to be allowed one day in every fortnight besides Sundays except during crop, under penalty of 20*l.*

"Negro grounds to be inspected every month.

"Where there are not proper lands, each slave is to have provision equal to 3*s.* 4*d.* per week.

"Proper clothing to be given to slaves annually, under penalty of 50*l.*

"Yearly accounts to be given in of the provision made for, and clothing delivered to the slaves, under penalty of 50*l.*

punishable with death; if free, and not white, with transportation; if white, the punishment is limited to a fine of £300 currency, and imprisonment, not exceeding twelve months.

Stephens on West Indian Slavery, p. 289.

" Possessors of slaves not to turn them away on account of infirmity, but keep them on their properties and provide for them, under penalty of *20l.*

" Wandering slaves may be taken up and sent to the workhouse to be supported till possessor summoned, and matter inquired into.

" If possessor found guilty, and refuse to pay penalty, workhouse fees, &c., he is to be sent to gaol till he pay.

" Justices and vestries to lay taxes for support of disabled Negroes, who are to be passed to the parishes where their former owner resided, as are those free poor who have been manumitted.

" Vestries to make regulations for their accommodation.

" In case of manumitted persons becoming burthensome to any parish, such parish may have recourse to the security-bond entered into under 15 Geo. 3. Chap. 18.

" Property of owners liable for support of deserted slaves, though not in the parish they become burthensome to.

" Disabled slaves, the property of insolvent debtors in custody of the provost-marshal, may be removed by order of two magistrates to the parish where the owner resided.

" Such order being recorded in clerk of the peace's office, provost-marshal and his deputies indemnified in acting under it.

" If Negroes afflicted with the yaws are allowed to leave the property and travel about the country, the owner, &c. permitting the same, to forfeit *20l.* for each.

" Field slaves are to have half an hour for breakfast, and two hours for dinner, and not to work before five nor after seven, except during crop, under penalty of *50l.*

" Slaves to be allowed the usual holidays; but they are not to have two successive days, except at Christmas.

" If persons allow them more holidays at those seasons they forfeit *5l.*

" Slaves taking up runaways, or discovering their being harboured, are to be rewarded at discretion of a magistrate.

" If they kill or take rebels, they are to be also rewarded.

" Persons wilfully killing slaves to suffer death.

" Blood not corrupted thereby.

" Persons mutilating slaves, or consenting thereto, may be fined *100l.*, and imprisoned twelve months, besides being liable to an action of damages.

" Court may, in atrocious cases, manumit slaves, and order the penalty to be paid to vestry, who are to allow the slaves *10l.* per annum.

" Slaves complaining to a magistrate may be sent to the workhouse, to be supported and attended till meeting of vestry, who are hereby created a council of protection, and are to inquire into such mutilations, and prosecute the offenders.

" Owners may be sued for costs.

" Workhouse keeper to produce mutilated slaves at first vestry, under penalty of *20l.*

" Justices, being informed that slaves are mutilated or confined without support, are to issue warrants in order that they may be brought before them.

" Persons cruelly beating slaves, or confining them without support, may be fined and imprisoned at discretion of the court, and also be liable to actions of damages.

" No slave to have more than ten lashes at a time for one offence, unless the owner or supervisor, &c. be present, nor more than thirty-nine on any account in one day, under penalty.

" Penalties on persons putting weights or chains on slaves or iron collars, other than here designated.

" Justices, &c., under penalty of *100l.* to have such collars, &c. taken off.

" No slave to travel (unless to market) without a ticket, under penalty of *40s.* on the owner, &c., if he cannot prove he gave a ticket, or that the slave went without his consent.

" If justices do not inflict this penalty they forfeit *5l.*

" Tickets to be only for one month.

" Free people granting tickets to slaves of others to be punished as the court shall direct.

" White people doing so, to be also punished at discretion of the court.

" Penalty of *50l.* for not endeavouring to suppress unlawful assemblies of slaves.

" Information must be given within fourteen days.

" Civil and military officers to suppress such assemblies.

" Overseers, &c., who suffer such assemblies, to be imprisoned six months, if information given in fourteen days.

Desertion to a public enemy may and ought to be so treated; but this cruelty is peculiar to these West India colonies.

Stephens on West Indian Slavery, p. 289.

" Slaves may have diversions on the properties they belong to, if no drums, &c. are used, but they must be over by ten at night.

" Negro burials to be over by sunset, or owner, &c. forfeits *50l.*

" Burials in the towns, &c. must also be over before sunset.

" Free people suffering assemblies at their houses to be imprisoned, if complained of in fourteen days.

" Owners, &c. of slaves knowingly permitting them to keep horses, &c. to forfeit 30*l.* for each offence.

" When stock given in, oath to be made that none of the horses, &c. belong to any slave, under penalty of 30*l.* for neglect or refusal.

" Any person discovering horses, &c. belonging to slaves must send them to the pound.

" How they are to be disposed of.

" Female slaves who have six children living are to be exempted from hard labour, and their owners from taxes for them, proof being given that the mother and children are living.

" Slaves concerned in rebellions, or commiting murder, &c., to suffer death, transportation, &c.

" If slaves offer violence to white or free people, court to order punishment, unless sufficient reason shewn.

" How slaves possessing fire-arms are to be punished.

" Slaves pretending to supernatural power may be sentenced to death.

" Slaves preparing or giving poison, though death does not ensue, to suffer death.

" Punishment on slaves having any poisonous drugs, pounded glass, &c., in their possession.

" Slaves found at any meeting formed for administering unlawful oaths, &c., are to be punished as the court shall direct, as are free or white people present at such meetings.

" Persons having knowledge of such unlawful meetings, and not giving information thereof, to be punished at discretion of court.

" Slaves stealing horned cattle, sheep, horses, &c., may be condemned to death.

" If slaves have in their possession twenty pounds of meat unaccounted for, they are to be whipped, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, and if above twenty pounds, justices to assign punishment, not affecting life.

" Punishment on slaves maiming or injuring horned cattle, horses, &c., also on those wantonly cutting and chopping any other slave.

" Punishment on slaves clearing their grounds by fire.

" Overseers, &c. having knowledge that any fire has been made for such purpose, and not doing their utmost to extinguish it, to be fined at the discretion of two justices.

" Slaves absent five days, or found eight miles from home, without tickets, to be deemed runaways.

" Slaves who have been here two years, and shall run away for six months, to be punished as the court shall direct.

" Punishment on those who continue absent for a shorter period.

" Slaves harbouring runaways to be adjudged by a slave court.

" Owners, &c., to pay 10*s.* and mile money for each runaway taken up.

" Proviso.—This act not to alter rewards to Maroons.

" Runaways to be conveyed to owners, or to a workhouse or nearest gaol.

" Workhouse or gaol keeper to pay reward and mile money under penalty.

" Workhouse or gaol keepers to advertise weekly, in each county, all runaways in their possession, with full descriptions of them, under penalty of 10*l.*, charging 3*s.* 4*d.* for each paper per month, which owners are to reimburse.

" Printers' accounts to be paid annually by treasurers.

" Slaves may be detained till advertising is paid for as well as the reward, with 12½ per cent. 8*d.* per day for maintenance, 2*d.* per day for medical care where necessary, &c., which charges must be attested.

" Proviso.—Slaves in confinement to have sufficient provision, under penalty of 10*l.*

" Rations for them.

" Public notice to be given by supervisors, &c. of replevins, &c. brought against them for slaves in the workhouse.

" If any person give notice to supervisors, &c., of an intention to defend such actions, supervisors must detain in custody the slaves in dispute, under penalty.

" Runaways to be committed to workhouses only.

" Slaves attempting to depart this island, Early in this year, the Methodists in St. Thomas's had sixty-five members in society, "who had been raised up chiefly through the

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Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 148.

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or assisting others in such attempts, may be sentenced to death.

"Free people of colour assisting slaves in getting off are to be transported, and suffer death if they return.

"If white people do so they forfeit 300*l.* for each, and may be imprisoned a year.

"Accessories may be proceeded against though principals are not convicted.

"If slaves not authorised travel with dogs, &c., or hunt with instruments of death, punishment may be awarded by two justices.

"On complaint of felonies, burglaries, &c. by slaves, justice to issue a warrant.

"Slaves to be evidence against other.

"Justice to call in two other justices (who must attend, or each forfeit 20*l.*), and they are to summon a jury from which particular persons are excepted.

"Jurors not attending to forfeit 5*l.*

"Nine persons to compose a jury.

"If slaves convicted, justices may give sentence of death, transportation, &c.

"Justices may suspend execution for thirty days if they see cause, and must do it on application of the jury, except in cases of rebellion, when they may order immediate execution.

"When business of quarter sessions ended, justices to form themselves into a slave court, for the purpose of gaol delivery.

"Not less than three justices to constitute a court for trial of slaves in certain cases.

"Where slaves are indicted for murder, if malice prepense do not appear, verdict of manslaughter may be returned.

"Jurors summoned for quarter sessions must serve in slave courts under penalty of 5*l.*

"Penalty of 10*l.* on persons warned to attend trials and neglecting to do so.

"Jurors, witnesses, &c., under this act, protected in their persons and slaves from being levied on.

"Records to be kept by clerk of the peace who must attend trials, and record proceedings in thirty days, under penalty of 20*l.*

"Deputy-marshals must warn jurors and attend at such trials, under penalty of 50*l.*

"Punishment on slaves for giving false evidence.

"If slaves against whom warrants are issued are concealed by owners, &c., they forfeit 100*l.*

"Six days' notice of trial to be given to owners, &c. of slaves.

"How such notices are to be served where owners reside in a different parish to that in which their slaves may have committed offences, and are to be tried.

"Executions must be public and solemn.

"Slaves sentenced to be executed or transported, to be valued by the court.

"Provost-marshal must execute orders of slave courts as soon as possible, under penalty of 200*l.*

"Valuation of slaves sentenced to death, &c. under this act to be paid by receiver-general.

"Purchasers of slaves sentenced to transportation, to give bond in 500*l.* penalty to transport them in thirty days.

"Bond to be lodged in clerk of peace's office.

"Purchasers to make oath that slaves shall be transported, and that they shall not be relanded.

"No slave to be delivered until bond taken and oath made, under penalty.

"Such slaves going at large may be apprehended by any person, and on due proof resold.

"If slaves return from transportation they are to suffer death.

"Masters of slaves wilfully bringing back transported slaves, to forfeit 300*l.* for each, and suffer imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

"Slaves, sentenced to confinement in workhouse for two years, escaping, may be ordered fifty lashes and recommitted, and those sentenced for life, escaping, may be transported.

"If marshal, constable, &c. suffer them to escape, they forfeit 50*l.*, and may be sued for their value.

"Fees of slaves discharged by proclamation to be paid by the public, proof being given that they were properly maintained.

"Gaol keepers not to work out slaves sent to them for confinement, under penalty of 50*l.*

"Two justices may enquire into inferior crimes, giving notice to owners, &c., of slaves, and order punishment.

"Clerks of peace to attend such summary trials, under penalty of 50*l.*, for which they are to be paid 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

"Justices to enforce this act as well during martial law as at other times.

"Recovery and application of penalties not before disposed of.

"Proceedings to be commenced within

zeal and endeavours of the pious soldiers." In the month of May they were augmented to eighty.

The judge sent for Mr. Dace, the missionary, and told him that the Danish laws forbade his sect from preaching at St. Thomas's. Mr. Dace then went to the English general, who told him that as the Danish civil laws were in force, he did not wish to interfere with them. The missionary however was not to be deterred; he hired a room which he found too small to contain half the persons desirous of hearing him, and therefore borrowed the use of the Moravians' chapel, and continued to preach every day for a month.

The American embargo having prevented supplies coming from that quarter, hundreds upon the Bermudas were obliged to live upon dried cod-fish, frequently, the Methodist missionary says, "without a bit of butter to render it palatable."

The Methodists had nearly ninety in society. The missionary says, "perhaps it is well for the Methodists that they never had any right reverend, right honourable, or most noble patrons; as they are now brought back to the state of the primitive church, when religion stood upon its own bottom. It is not patronage, it is not money, it is not titles, but genuine grace, holy zeal, and primitive simplicity, that must support and promote the work of God." "May the Methodists be ever kept humble, and God will exalt them. May they ever continue united, and *ignorance*, bigotry, and prejudice will fall before them."

The town of Port of Spain, in Trinidad, was nearly destroyed by fire.

The number of slaves at Barbadoes, returned into the treasurer's office, was 69,369.

The peninsula of Samana, in Española, produced, this year, 800 "milliers" of coffee; its commanding situation and fine port induced the French to direct their particular attention to establish a settlement there.

The east part of Española exported logs of "acajou" to the value of 480,000 ("gourdes") dollars!

Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. pp. 149, 150. 254. 259.
Colquhoun's British Empire, 365.
Official Papers presented to the House of Commons, 1815.
Précis Historique des derniers Evenements de Santo Domingo, pp. 23. 26.

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twelve months: offences committed under former act may be heard, tried, &c. as if it were still in force."

Brief Remarks on the Slave Registry Bill, London, 1816, *Appendix*, c. 61. 63, 64.

It is to be remarked, that in this act the clause requiring returns to be made annually upon oath of all the births and deaths of slaves within the year, is left out. As this information was what the British government particularly wanted and repeatedly requested, the omission is decisive as to the disinclination of the Jamaica legislature to let them have it — their motives may be easily conjectured.

" His Majesty's sloop Hazard, off St. Mary's,
Guadaloupe, October 17th, 1809.

" Sir,

" Cruizing on my station, blockading Point-à-Petre, Pelorus in company, at day-light this morning, I observed a privateer schooner moored under the battery of St. Mary. I immediately determined on the capture or destruction of her. Both ships stood in sufficiently close to silence the battery effectually, and cover our boats, which were dispatched, under the orders of Lieutenants Robertson and Flinn, first of their respective ships, and I am happy to say they succeeded in boarding her; but as she was moored to the shore with a chain from the mast head and each quarter, finding it impossible to bring her out, they shortly after blew her up.

" In justice to the officers and men employed on this service, I cannot omit particularizing the very gallant manner in which they approached the schooner, under a very heavy fire of grape from the battery, until it was silenced by the ships, and of grape and musquetry from the privateer, until they were nearly alongside, when the enemy quitted her, and joined a long line of musquetry on the beach, and two field pieces, to the fire of which they were exposed during the whole time they were preparing to blow her up, at a distance of not more than ten yards.

" The privateer had one long eighteen-pounder, on a circular carriage, and two swivels, about 100 tons, and appeared to have from 80 to 100 men. She was coppered and appeared new, and left Point-à-Petre yesterday on a cruize. Our joint loss has been fifteen killed and wounded; that of the enemy must have been very considerable, as the shore was completely lined with musquetry, exposed to a heavy cannonade from both ships, as well as from the small arms in the boats.

" I have the honour, &c.

" To Commodore Fahie." " Hugh Cameron."

" His Majesty's ship Thetis, off the N.W. part of
Guadaloupe, December 13th, 1809.

" Sir,

" I have the honour to acquaint you, that the brig you directed me to reconnoitre at the Hayes proved to be the French national corvette Le Nisus, commanded by M. Le Netvel, capitaine de frigate, brought out of that port yesterday evening. The gallantry displayed by Captain Elliott, of the Pultusk, who headed the marines of this ship, the Pultusk, Achates, and Bacchus, with a party of seventy-five seamen, secured the possession of this vessel, and the destruction of every defence at the port of the Hayes. The difficulties they had to encounter in finding their way through thick woods, over a high hill, without any path or guide, adds an instance to the perseverance and intrepidity of British seamen and marines.

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 267.

It was dark before this gallant party found their way to the fort. Their charge made upon it was irresistible, the enemy (amounting, by the account of one of the prisoners, to 300 men) fled after a slight resistance, and the brig surrendered immediately upon the guns of the fort being turned upon her, and was brought by Captain Elliott, who left Lieutenant Belchier, first of this ship, in charge of the destruction of the battery, which he completely effected, setting fire to the buildings, spiking the guns, and throwing the carriages and ammunition over the cliff. I should be deficient in duty not to report the zeal and ability displayed by that officer in the performance of this service, as well as the assistance his abilities have afforded me whenever called upon, and the credit Lieutenant Carr has added to his character, and the gallantry of the Attentive in keeping up a fire on the battery and brig for upwards of six hours, a considerable part of the time within range of grape.

" Conceiving it of much importance to prevent the enemy getting guns mounted again at the fort, and cutting off reinforcements from Basse Terre, which the prisoners report were expected, I have thought it my duty to remain off the Hayes, in hopes of accomplishing that object, and preventing any vessels getting into that port, or their getting round the cargo of Le Nisus, which I understood to be a supply of provisions, and is in the town; most of her crew got on shore from her after surrendering. She sailed from L'Orient on the 30th of October, and arrived at the Hayes on the 1st of this month, and was ready again for sea, laden with coffee.

" I am happy to add that not a man has been lost. The boatswain's-mate and one seaman on board the Attentive, one marine and one seaman belonging to this ship, wounded on shore.

" I have, &c.,
" George Miller."

" To V. V. Ballard, senior officer
off Guadaloupe."

" Sir, " Pompée, under Mariegalante, December 25th, 1809.

" Being at anchor in Fort Royal Bay, Martinico, on the 16th instant, a man-of-war brig, far in the offing to leeward, appeared with the signal flying that she had been chased by the enemy's frigates. I immediately made the signal to the Perlen, then on her way towards Guadaloupe, to speak the brig, and to proceed according to the intelligence she might obtain. The Alcmene was ordered

Official Letter.

On the 14th of December, his Majesty's ship Melampus captured Le Beauharnais, brig corvette, of sixteen twenty-four-pounder carronades, and 109 men, with flour and warlike stores for Guadaloupe.

On the 19th of December, his Majesty's ship Rosamond captured Le Papillon, brig corvette, of fourteen twenty-four-pounder carronades, and two long sixes, and 110 men, bound to Guadaloupe, with 300 barrels of flour. She was taken close in with Santa Cruz.

Official Letter.

to weigh and follow; and the Sceptre, Alfred, and Freija, which had that moment joined me, were not allowed to anchor, but to leave their flat boats, and proceed also. So soon as I heard from Captain Weatherall, of the Observateur, the brig which made the signal, that the enemy's frigates, four in number, had captured and burnt his Majesty's ship Junon (belonging to the Halifax squadron), about 150 miles to windward of Guadaloupe, and that the Observateur had escaped by superior sailing, I proceeded to sea with this ship and the Abercrombie, and arrived off the Saints early in the morning of the 18th; and about noon I was informed, by Captain Elliott, of his Majesty's sloop Pultusk, that two of the enemy's frigates were at anchor about three leagues to the northward and westward of the town of Basse Terre. I then directed Captain Fahie, of the Abercrombie, to remain and guard Point-à-Petre, and Captain Watson, of the Alfred, to guard Basse Terre, and made all sail in this ship, with an intention of attacking the enemy; but on approaching nearer, I discovered the Sceptre of the line, the Blonde, Thetis, Freija, and Castor frigates, and Cygnet, Hazard, and Ringdove sloops, and Elizabeth schooner, ready to commence the attack; I, therefore, did not interfere with the judicious arrangements of Captain Ballard, of the Sceptre, the senior captain, and had only an opportunity of witnessing the engagement. Baffling and light winds prevented the Pompée from getting within gun-shot until the action had ceased, and the two frigates and batteries which defended the anchorage were completely destroyed.

" The Blonde, Thetis, Cygnet, Hazard, and Ringdove, bore the brunt of the action, from their being ahead of the other ships; and, by the animated fire kept up from them, one of the enemy's frigates was very soon dismasted, when the men began to desert the ships, and soon after set fire to them. Upon this, Captain Cameron, of the Hazard, with the boats of the squadron, gallantly landed and stormed the batteries, which were still annoying our ships both with cannon and musketry, and, in the act of hauling down the enemy's colours, he fell by a swivel shot. In him the service has lost a brave and distinguished officer, and who, with Lieutenant Jenkins, first of the Blonde, also killed, have each left a widow and family to lament their loss.

" The names of the frigates destroyed are, I understand, the Loire and Seine, pierced for forty guns each, but had none mounted on their quarter-decks or forecastles; they were moored in a strong position in Ance la Barque, with their broadsides towards the entrance, which was defended by a heavy battery, now demolished, and the magazines blown up. I am informed by the seven prisoners brought off from the shore, that these ships had not their full complement of seamen, but they had 400 troops on board, and fifty artillery men, which all escaped, with the exception of the above seven, and twenty others taken in a recaptured vessel, but all the warlike stores and provisions intended for the garrison of Guadaloupe were blown up in the frigates.

" I enclose a return of killed and wounded; the Blonde's loss is rather severe, and so is, I have reason to believe, the enemy's, who had time to save nothing but their clothes.

" I had every reason to be highly pleased in witnessing the emulation and bravery displayed by the several ships in closing with the enemy, and I request you to make the same known to the lords commissioners of the admiralty; also Captain Ballard's report, which is sent herewith.

" I have not yet been able to fall in with the other two frigates, but I am in great hopes of preventing their arrival at Guadaloupe.

" I have, &c.

" Alexander Cochrane."

Captain Ballard's Report to Admiral Cochrane.

" Sir, " Sceptre, off Guadaloupe, December 18th, 1809.

" The moment I took charge of the squadron you did me the honour to place under my command, I that instant rejected the enemy's truce, conceiving it a mere French finesse to procrastinate our attack on their frigates at an anchor in Port a la Duche.

" The captains of the squadron most readily entered into my plans, which, and the ready zeal manifested throughout the squadron, claims my most grateful thanks. To Captains Ballard and Miller all possible praise is due for so judiciously placing their ships in a situation nearly annihilating the enemy's two frigates, of forty guns each; the outer ship's masts gone and on fire, by the time this ship and the rest of the squadron, from baffling winds, could render assistance.

" I lament that this little affair has not been achieved without bloodshed. To that gallant officer, Captain Cameron, I gave discretionary orders, with the other commanders, aided by the armed boats, to act against the batteries; and, while in possession of the northernmost fort, which we had before silenced, he received a wound from a musket-ball, and afterwards his mortal wound from a swivel shot. In him the service has lost a most meritorious and good officer. I grieve to find he has left a widow to mourn his loss.

(signed) " V. V. Ballard."

" Thetis, six wounded; Blonde, seven killed and seventeen wounded."

Upon the 13th of December, Captain Shortland, in the Junon frigate, with the Observateur brig in company, fell in with two French frigates, of forty-eight guns, carrying 300 men each, and two other ships of the same size, armed en-flute, with twenty guns each, and having on board 400 troops with military stores. "About 150 miles to windward of Guadaloupe, they were under Spanish colours, and answered correctly the Spanish private signals which he made. Being thus deceived, he stood towards them; but when he came within gun-shot, he began to suspect his danger, and gave orders to put the ship about. At that moment French colours were hoisted, and a broadside poured into the Junon, which killed the man at the helm; the one who took his place did not correctly hear the orders, and the ship, in consequence, instead of running between the two headmost frigates, sheered on board one of them, and was immediately closed by the other on the opposite side. It was no longer possible to escape, and all Captain Shortland could do was to maintain the conflict to the utmost, and give the enemy sufficient employment to prevent them from pursuing the brig. He had only 200 men; the two larger frigates lay one on each side of him; of the others, one had passed her bowsprit over the Junon's starboard, the other over her larboard quarter, and a most destructive fire was poured in from all sides. The muskets of the troops being particularly galling, Captain Shortland attempted to board, but the boarding party were almost all cut off by a general volley directed against them. It was long before the enemy ventured to make the same attempt; they were three times repulsed in it. At length, however, they succeeded, and after an action of an hour and a quarter, the Junon struck. Ninety of her men were killed and wounded, and the hull so complete a wreck that the enemy set fire to her the next day. The captain was dreadfully wounded, his head being the only part about him unhurt; it is not known that any man ever received so many severe wounds in one action. To the last moment he had headed the men with a pike in his hand, till a langridge shot laid him senseless on the deck. He was carried on board the French ship with great difficulty, a very heavy sea running at the time. There he was placed in the captain's cabin, but upon a false alarm that an English frigate was in sight, the French cleared for action, and he was removed into the gun-room. These removals increased his sufferings, and the enemy being obliged to run into a small creek for fear of the English, instead of entering Basse Terre, he was carried in an open canoe, under a scorching sun, thirteen miles to the hospital. His right leg was amputated above the knee; there was, however, little hope or possibility of his recovery. On the part of the French medical staff, every thing was done to alleviate his sufferings. General

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 256.

Ernouf, it is said, never offered him a single comfort, or sent a single message of complimentary enquiry or condolence. He gave orders, however, that every military honour should be paid to his remains, when, after six weeks suffering, during the whole of which time he had never been able to sit up in his bed, this brave man was released by death. Captain Shortland's request was, that no Catholic priest, nor any emblem of the Catholic religion might be seen at his funeral; for he was especially anxious to have it known, that though it was his lot to die among Catholics, he died a firm and fervent believer in the Protestant faith. Accordingly a British union jack was used for his pall, no fitter could have been devised for such a man, and the funeral service was performed by the purser of the Junon. The prisoners taken in the Junon were immediately exchanged, for Buonaparte could not afford in the islands to condemn his own soldiers and seamen to life-long imprisonment, for the sake of gratifying his hatred of the English, as he does in Europe. In one of the cartels, General Ernouf sent two officers to Martinico to organize the intended insurrection, which was to begin when the garrison was weakened, by having part of its force embarked against Guadaloupe. The project was detected by the English governor just when the last ship of war was working out of the bay to join the expedition, and in time to recal her. The prisoners were immediately confined in the fort, and the guns turned upon the town, and the emissaries being seized, and their whole plans discovered, the island was made as secure as it could be under its unfavourable and hopeless circumstances.

"The people of Martinico were discontented, as the British government were warned that they would be, by the impolicy (to use no harsher term) which excluded their produce from the British market. General Ernouf was well aware of this, and failed not to

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 255.

His Majesty's brig Morne Fortunée, of twelve guns, Lieutenant J. Brown, upon the 9th of January, was upset in a squall, off Martinico, and only nineteen of her crew saved.

The Amphitrite, of forty four guns; Rossoliis, eighteen; and Carnation, of eighteen, were burnt, in March, by the French at Martinico, to prevent their being taken by the English. The Amphitrite, however, was saved from the flames, and the St. Pierre, of twenty guns, taken.

The Beau Narcisse, of eight guns, was taken by his Majesty's sloop Mozelle, Captain Boys, on the 28th of May.

His Majesty's sloop Glommen, of eighteen guns, Captain Pickford, in November, was lost in Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes. Crew saved.

The Curieuse, of eighteen guns, Captain Henry G. Moysey, was lost, and the crew saved.

The Fanfaron corvette, of sixteen guns, was taken by Captain Maitland, in his Majesty's ship Emerald, of thirty-six guns, off Guadaloupe, on the 6th of November.

His Majesty's brig Unique, of ten guns, Lieutenant T. Fellows, in June, was burnt, at Basse Terre, Guadaloupe.

The Dominica, of fourteen guns, Lieutenant Charles Webb, in October, was upset in a hurricane, near Tortola, and only three of her crew saved.

Steele's Navy List.

foment a disposition which, by finding employment for the British force, might delay or avert the danger that he apprehended to himself; for he well knew that the French would not long be left in quiet possession of their last and strongest possession.

" On the third day after the Junon was taken, the Observateur reached Martinico. Admiral Cochrane immediately put to sea, but the brig had spoken with one of our light squadrons on the way, and when the admiral, having obtained intelligence that two of the French frigates were in Ance la Barque, to the N.W. of Basse Terre, arrived there (on the 18th of December), with the intention of attacking them, he found the squadron under Captain Ballard, of the Sceptre, ready to commence the attack. The batteries were stormed, and the enemy deserted their ships and set fire to them. The log-book of one was found, and it bore a high but unintended testimony to the gallantry with which the Junon had been defended; for it was alleged as a reason why the Observateur had not been pursued, that they could not spare one of the frigates for that purpose."

1810.

Capture of Guadaloupe.— General Beckwith's Dispatch to the Earl of Liverpool.

" My Lord, " Guadaloupe, February 9th, 1810.

" In obedience to the King's command to attack this island, as pointed out in your lordship's dispatch of the 2d of November last, I have the honour to report, for his Majesty's information, that having taken the necessary measures to collect such a force as circumstances admitted, and as I judged adequate to this important service, and having made every necessary arrangement with Vice-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane, I sailed from Martinico on the 22d ult. to the place of general rendezvous at Prince Rupert's, Dominica, where we were detained forty-eight hours, some of the transports having fallen to leeward. The army was formed into five brigades. The first brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General Harcourt, was composed of 500 light infantry, 300 of the 15th foot, including their flank companies, and 400 battalion men of the 3d West India regiment.

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, vol. ii. pp. 257. 274.

Upon the 1st of February, Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher, a native of Jamaica, died at her residence on Gay Hills, in the parish of St. Thomas' in the Vale, in that island, at the advanced age of 120 years. She retained all her faculties, enjoyed a good appetite, and possessed her usual flow of spirits, to the period of her death.—*Edinburgh Annual Register,* vol. ii. p. 22.

" The second brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Barrow, consisted of 300 grenadiers, 600 men of the 25th regiment, including their flank companies, and 350 men of the 6th West India regiment, including their flank companies.

" The third brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Maclean, consisted of 500 light infantry, 500 men of the 90th foot, including their flank companies, and 400 men of the 8th West India regiment, including their flank companies.

" The fourth brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General Skinner, was composed of a battalion of 600 men, formed from the 13th and 63d regiments, a detachment of 200 men of the York light infantry volunteers, and the 4th West India regiment.

" The fifth brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General Wale, consisted of 300 grenadiers; 900 men of the Royal York rangers; to this force was added 300 artillery, under the command of Colonel Burton, with a company of military artificers. These brigades were formed into two divisions and a reserve.

" The first division, commanded by Major-General Heslop, was composed of the third and fourth brigades; the second division, under the command of Brigadier-General Harcourt, consisted of the first and second brigades. The fifth brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General Wale, formed the reserve.

" The second division sailed from Dominica on the morning of the 26th, and anchored at the Saints. The first division, with the reserve, sailed in the course of the afternoon, and anchored, on the 27th, at the Isle Gosier Grande Terre, and, early in the morning of the 28th, proceeded across the bay to St. Mary's in Capesterre, in the smaller vessels of war, other craft and flat boats, where a landing was effected, without opposition, in the course of the day; and, in the afternoon, the first division, under the command of Major-General Heslop, moved forward, the third brigade to Capesterre, the fourth brigade to Grande Riviere, the reserve remained to cover the landing of the necessary provisions and other objects.

" On the 29th the first division marched to Bannanier's river, where it took post, the reserve at the same time abandoning the landing-place at St. Mary's, and reached the Grande Riviere that night, with two days' provisions for the corps acting to windward. On the 30th, the first division advanced by the strong pass of Trou-au-Chien, which was not defended, and the head of the column reached Three Rivers about eleven o'clock, pushing small detachments on the enemy with the light troops. The reserve marched early in the morning from its position, gaining Three Rivers about sun-set.

" The enemy marked a disposition to defend the heights D'Olot, and other places, strengthened with field artillery; but in the afternoon he abandoned all his posts with precipitation, leaving his

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ordnance behind. It became necessary for the first division and the reserve to remain at Three Rivers until the morning of the 2d instant, to land five days' provisions from the fleet, which, owing to the uncommon exertions of Commodore Fahie, Captains Dilkes and Dowers, with other naval officers, (whose activity on this occasion, as well as at the landing at St. Mary's, was most conspicuous,) was promptly effected. The corps marching in two columns, the reserve forming the right, and advancing by the mountains, took possession of Palmiste at his upper extremity, whilst the first division marching by D'Olot, and the great road to Basse Terre, subdivided at the foot of this height. The fourth brigade ascending it near the centre, the third brigade at its lower extremity, the reserve found the posts of Langlais abandoned, and the guns spiked. The possession of Morne Houel being of the highest importance, I directed Brigadier-General Wale to march with the reserve at four o'clock in the afternoon, who occupied it, without resistance, about eight at night; the cannon being spiked and dismounted, and the ammunition in general wasted or destroyed. On the morning of the 3d, the first division marched from Palmiste, crossing the river Gallion in one column at the only practicable pass, the fourth brigade taking post in the centre about a mile from the bridge of Noziere on the river Noire, and the third brigade occupied Mr. Peltier's house, where the enemy abandoned a magazine of provisions.

" In the course of the 29th, the second division, under the command of Brigadier-General Harcourt, weighed from the Saints, and standing across towards Three Rivers, gave the enemy some jealousy in that quarter, facilitating the advance of the rest of the army, but in the night bore up, landing the next morning to leeward near the river Du Plessis, and marching immediately towards the enemy's right, inclining to his rear, excited his attention to such a degree as to induce him to abandon his defences at Three Rivers, Palmiste, Morne Houel, and to retire beyond the bridge of Noziere, putting the river in his front, and extending his left in such a manner into the mountains, as, in his opinion, to secure his position. The second division was enabled, from the nature of the country, to land two royal howitzers and two field-pieces, and to mount them in battery, to which two eight-inch howitzer mortars were afterwards added. The enemy being now compressed within narrow limits, the difficulty (and that a considerable one) was the passage of the river Noire, to the defence of which he had paid the utmost attention; it appeared to me to be necessary to turn his left by the mountains, notwithstanding all the obstructions of nature and of art which opposed this decision. I therefore gave the necessary orders to Brigadier-General Wale, commanding the reserve, to carry this important service into execution during the

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night of the 3d; but, after my separating from the Brigadier-General, he obtained intelligence of a nature so important, as not, in his opinion, to admit of his consulting me upon an alteration in the time, and he proceeded to execute his orders, although by a shorter route than we possessed the knowledge of at the period of my quitting him.

"I entirely approve of the Brigadier-General's determination, on the grounds on which he decided, although it created a temporary embarrassment. This important service was greatly and successfully executed, as will appear more fully by Brigadier-General Wale's separate report; and my sentiments of what is due to Major Henderson, commanding the Royal York rangers, who was wounded on this occasion, and to the officers and soldiers of his regiment, are fully expressed in my public orders, forwarded with this letter, which I request your lordship will be pleased to lay before the King, with my earnest hope that his Majesty will promote Major Henderson, whose merits are beyond my praise.

"I lament on this occasion the loss sustained by this young corps, which has suffered considerably, amounting to no less than four lieutenants killed, one field officer, and four captains wounded, with upwards of eighty men killed and wounded; but the effort decided the campaign, the enemy being so confounded in finding his flank turned, and the heights occupied, that the captain-general instantly hoisted white flags at his own quarters, and other places, whilst the troops were advancing, and indeed this officer's person was greatly exposed in his position. I am concerned to add, that Brigadier-General Wale, commanding the reserve, and Captain Grey, an assistant in the quarter-master-general's department, were wounded on this service. Commissioners appointed on both sides, having met the next morning (the 5th), a capitulation was agreed upon, which was ratified on the morning of the 6th, and which I trust will be honoured with his Majesty's approbation.

"I have the honour to inclose the following documents: —

"No. 1. The proclamation addressed by the admiral and myself to the inhahabitants of Guadaloupe.

"No. 2. Major-General Hislop's report of the first division.

"No. 3. Brigadier-General Harcourt's report of the second division.

"No. 4. Brigadier-General Wale's report of the attack made by the Royal York rangers, with the feint of the second battalion of grenadiers, upon the bridge of Noziere, on the evening of the 3d, and morning of the 4th.

"No. 5. The capitulation.

"No. 6. Copies of my public orders of the 5th, 6th, and 7th, to the army and navy serving on shore.

"No. 7. Returns of killed, wounded, and missing.

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" When the uncommon strength of this country, generally, is considered, and the nature of the enemy's position, which had been selected with great attention, covered with redoubts, and furnished with artillery, I trust the advance of one column of the army without a single field-piece, and of the other equally unprovided until within range of the enemy's principal works, will be held by military men a bold and arduous enterprize, where the defence possessed a force, in the first instance, of 3500 men, notwithstanding which the campaign terminated in eight days. This force underwent a gradual diminution, and latterly a very extensive one by the falling off of the colonial troops, and by the increase of the sick and wounded, whose numbers (independent of the killed and missing, which are considerable) are stated to me to exceed 600 men. Captain Wilby, one of my aides-de-camp, who was intrusted with the eagles taken from the enemy at Martinico last campaign, has the honour to be the bearer of this dispatch, and of the eagle of the 66th regiment, which has fallen into our possession on the present occasion, to be laid at the King's feet.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" G. BECKWITH, Commander of the Forces."

Brigadier General Wale's Report to Lieutenant-General Beckwith.

" SIR, " Morne Houel, February 5th, 1810."

" Though your excellency is fully acquainted with the result of yesterday's action between the reserve and the enemy, I should not do justice to the conduct of the troops under my command, did I not point out to your excellency the particulars of an action, in which the courage and coolness of British soldiers was, perhaps, never more conspicuously displayed. Soon after your excellency had given me instructions for forcing the passage of the river De la Pere, I found an intelligent guide who promised, at the forfeiture of his own life, to lead my brigade across the river, at less than half the distance of the original intended route, but the road so difficult it would be necessary to pass it in the day-time. As therefore no time was to be lost, I decided upon an immediate attack; encouraged the more to this plan as there was a diversion against the enemy, who at this time was engaged with another division of the army in an opposite direction. The brigade was in motion about four o'clock; Major Henderson at the head of the Royal York rangers; Major Edden, with the grenadier battalion, was directed to make a diversion to the left, and to avail himself of any opportunity that might offer, to force the bridge agreeably to your excellency s intention. The detachment of artillery ordered to take advantage of any favourable circumstance that might occur; myself and staff accompanied the Royal York rangers. We pro-

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ceeded to the banks of the river without meeting any resistance from the enemy but a few random shot and shells. The pass of the river De la Pere was by nature most difficult, and was made still more by abbattis lined with troops, and every possible obstruction thrown in our way. Here it was the enemy first opened the fire of musketry; but our brave troops, superior to all difficulties, soon forced this passage. Having passed the river, we continued our march, for about 100 yards, through rugged rocks and bushes, when the front companies branched off into three columns, rapidly ascending the heights, the three leading companies reserving their fire till they gained the same; the remainder firing to their flanks on the enemy, but still following the van. As we approached the summit of the height, the ascent became more difficult, and about 500 of the enemy's best troops poured down on us a most destructive fire.

" Major Henderson, with the three companies who first ascended the heights, found the enemy posted behind abbattis and stockaded redoubts. This intrepid officer did not return the fire of the enemy till within about twenty-five yards distance, and immediately closed with them; it was about one hour and a half from our being first engaged with the enemy, after the passage of the river, to their complete dispersion; during which time it was impossible for troops to shew more cool and undaunted courage, than was exhibited upon that occasion by that gallant regiment the Royal York rangers, to every individual of which I feel highly indebted for the success of the day; and as your excellency was an eye-witness to the difficulties they surmounted, I need not say more upon the subject, and when all behaved well, it would be invidious to distinguish particular merit. Major Henderson was wounded and disabled from further service by a ball in the breast, in close contact with the enemy. Being myself afterwards disabled, the command would have devolved upon that gallant officer Captain Stark, had he not, with Captain Darling, also been wounded about the same time. I understand, by the exertions of Captains Sutherland and Matthewson, the regiment was formed, and prepared to advance in the morning, to carry into effect your excellency's plan of forcing the passes of the bridge, to the success of which you were an eye-witness.

" I have sincerely to regret the loss of many brave officers and soldiers killed and wounded, the return of which, as far as can at present be collected, I have the honour to enclose.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" To Sir G. Beckwith, K. B." " C. WALE, Brigadier-General."

" Fifty-two killed, 250 wounded, seven missing."

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 277.

Proclamation. January 27th, 1810.

"PLANTERS AND INHABITANTS OF GUADALOUPE,

"Since the commencement of the French revolution, you have been a prey to every species of calamity that can be brought upon man in a state of society, by a despotism, at times unjust and arbitrary, at others atrocious, and at all times rapacious.

"Providence has at length decreed, that a scandal, which has lasted too long, should cease by the removal, from these countries, of the pernicious influence of the man who has spread mourning and wretchedness throughout Europe.

"We come in his Majesty's name to determine your fate, and recal amongst you days of happiness, by making you participate in the prosperity enjoyed by the countries subjected to the King's paternal government. These beneficent intentions are supported by a land and sea force, formidable to those who would oppose it, but offering protection to those who are attached to peace, and to their own interests.

"We order all the planters and inhabitants of towns to return to their homes; they will find themselves protected there in their persons and properties.

"We direct the civil commissioners to repair to their posts, and to remain at them, to maintain internal order, for which they are responsible, and to execute such instructions as they shall receive from the persons delegated by us.

"All planters and inhabitants taken in arms will be treated as prisoners of war, of whatever description they may be.

"Masters will be responsible for the acts of their slaves.

"Ministers of religion! do not forget, on so critical an occasion, the duties imposed upon you by the divine religion you profess. It is his Majesty's intention that it should be maintained and respected, and that its ministers should be protected, if they preach obedience and fidelity to the monarch we represent.

"G. BECKWITH.
"A. COCHRANE."

"Done at head quarters, Guadaloupe, 27th January, 1810, in the fiftieth year of his Majesty's reign.

By command of their excellencies, "W. H. WILBY.
"J. S. TRACY."

Admiral Cochrane's dispatches, with his report of the capture of Guadaloupe, contains the following paragraph of additional information: "On the 2d of February, five days' provisions having been prepared for the troops, they proceeded on to the heights of Palmiste, and the shipping anchored again about two miles to the northward of Basse Terre. At half past six o'clock in the afternoon, on my appearing off the town, the chiefs of the provisional govern-

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ment sent off a flag of truce to implore safety for themselves and the town; to which I replied by assuring the inhabitants, that their persons and property should be protected and held inviolable, provided they gave up the forts which commanded the town; but on their sending off a second time to say they had no power or controul over the troops garrisoning them, and that they were only peaceable and defenceless inhabitants in Basse Terre, I forbore to fire on the forts for fear of injuring the town; but on the following day at two o'clock, I sent Commodore Fahie with detachments of marines from all the ships, to march and take possession of it, and to guard all the avenues leading to the forts, so as to keep the enemy's troops in them in check, which service was performed greatly to my satisfaction."

The total number of French prisoners, embarked at Guadaloupe, were 1309, exclusive of 300 in the hospital; from five to six hundred killed and wounded, and 856 dispersed about the country.

Capture of St. Martin's.

"His Majesty's ship Abercrombie, off Great Bay,
St. Martin's, February 17th, 1810."

"Sir,

"I arrived, at daylight on the 14th instant, off this island, with the squadron you did me the honour to place under my orders, destined to co-operate with the military force, under the command of Brigadier-General Harcourt, for its reduction. The Vimiera, Snap, and Morne Fortunée, soon after joined me, and, in the course of the day, the Frolic, Surinam, and Superieure. Captain Scobell, in his Majesty's brig the Vimiera, with a company of the 25th regiment, under the orders of Captain Beattie, assistant quarter-master-general, was immediately dispatched to Marigot Bay to occupy the French quarter of the island, having charge of a joint letter from General Harcourt and myself, addressed to the commandant, and enclosing to him General Ernouf's order to place his Majesty's troops in possession thereof, in conformity to the capitulation concluded at Guadaloupe on the 6th instant, which, I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, was instantly complied with, and the French garrison embarked on board the Vimiera. At the same moment we sent a summons to the governor of the Dutch part of the island, to which he replied in evasive terms. As the disembarkation of the troops and artillery therefore became immediately necessary, his Majesty's brigs Ringdove, Snap, Morne Fortunée, were ordered to anchor close to the shore, in Little Cool Bay, within a long range of the enemy's batteries, where the landing was effected before sunset, without opposition. Anxious to give every facility in my power to the views of General Harcourt, by an immediate co-operation, I landed with him, determined to remain by his side, until

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the final accomplishment of the important service intrusted to us. The troops had just taken a forward position when we received a message from the governor, expressive of his desire to capitulate, and his intention to send out commissioners with his terms, by eight o'clock that night. Brigadier-General Skinner, and Captain Dowers, of his Majesty's brig the Ringdove, were appointed, on our part, to meet them. It was, however, noon on the 15th, before the articles were adjusted, having for their basis those granted to the garrison and island of Guadaloupe. It was stipulated that they should be ratified by the governor and returned in three hours; but before the expiration of that time, the Dutch commissioners returned, and earnestly solicited to be allowed until eight o'clock the next day, which was granted on their positive assurance that they would be prepared at that hour to put his Majesty's troops in possession of the principal fort. At nine o'clock, therefore, in the morning of the 16th, General Harcourt marched towards the town of Phillipsbourg; the seamen drawing the howitzers over the hills, and every measure having been adopted for an immediate attack, should it be found necessary; when, to our surprise, we were met on the march by one of the Dutch commissioners, who informed us, that the governor had determined to surrender at discretion, rather than ratify the capitulation; this was immediately confirmed by the appearance of the governor, who, addressing General Harcourt, surrendered himself and garrison as prisoners of war. During this conversation, the Dutch colours were lowered at Fort Louis, and the garrison marched down to the foot of the hill, where they laid down their arms and were embarked.

"The unconditional surrender of the colony will unavoidably delay us here some days, as many arrangements which relate to its internal government become indispensably necessary. The moment the general has settled the points which claim his attention here, I shall sail to execute the remaining part of your orders, and I hope soon to acquaint you, that they have been fully accomplished, and so consistently with your instructions, Sir, as to meet your approbation.

"I have the honour to be,

"Vice Admiral the Honourable "W. C. Fahie."
Sir A. Cochrane."

General Harcourt, in order to tranquillize the public, assembled the council immediately; assured them that no ungenerous advantages would be taken of their unprotected situation; that every measure should be adopted which liberality on the one hand, and a due regard to his Majesty's interest on the other, could dictate. This communication completely satisfied the inhabitants.

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810. p. 283.

Capture of St. Eustatia.

" His Majesty's ship Abercrombie, at anchor in the road of St. Eustatia, the 22d Feb. 1810.

" Sir,

" The measures which it became necessary to adopt for the internal government of the Dutch quarter of the island of St. Martin, in consequence of its unconditional surrender to his Majesty's arms, having been completed on the evening of the 20th instant, I sailed from thence at daylight on the following morning, and at twelve o'clock on the same day anchored in this road. On the appearance of the Abercrombie off the road, Captain Dowers, of his Majesty's brig the Ringdove (who had been sent forward with a joint summons from Brigadier-General Harcourt and myself, addressed to the governor), joined us with his answer, together with the terms on which he offered to capitulate; but as they were in some points inadmissible, Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart and Captain Dowers were sent on shore to meet the Dutch commissioners, and I have the satisfaction to inform you, that before night the articles of capitulation were framed and ratified on both sides, and the grenadier company of the 25th regiment landed to occupy the principal fort. Entire possession of the island was given to us at nine o'clock this morning, and the Dutch garrison marched out with the honours of war and embarked.

" Though the island of St. Eustatia is of little value in itself, the acquisition of it is important, as it finally expels the enemy's flag from the archipelago; and, I am assured, Sir, that it will be to you, as it is to me, a source of peculiar satisfaction, that I have been able to carry your orders into complete execution without the loss of a single life.

" I have, &c.

" Vice-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane." " W. C. Fahie."

Capture of Saba.

" Sir, " His Majesty's brig Morne Fortunée, 22d Feb. 1810.

" Agreeably to my orders, I proceeded and delivered the letters to the Vice-Governor of Saba, who requested a short time to call in his burghers. At four A.M. they surrendered the island to his Majesty's brig under my command, when I had the honour to hoist the British colours, and it was saluted by the inhabitants with three cheers.

" T. Wells, Lieutenant Commander."

" To Commodore Fahie."

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 284.

" *Copy of the Tenth Article of the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance between His Britannic Majesty and His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, signed at Rio Janeiro the* 19*th of February*, 1810, *and published by authority.*

" His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, being fully convinced of the injustice and impolicy of the slave trade, and of the great disadvantages which arise from the necessity of introducing and continually renewing a foreign and factitious population for the purpose of labour and industry within his South American dominions, has resolved to co-operate with His Britannic Majesty in the cause of humanity and justice, by adopting the most efficacious means for bringing about a gradual abolition of the slave trade throughout the whole of his dominions; and, actuated by this principle, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal engages, that his subjects shall not be permitted to carry on the slave trade on any part of the coast of Africa, not actually belonging to his Royal Highness's dominions, in which that trade has been discontinued and abandoned by the powers and states of Europe which formerly traded there; reserving, however, to his own subjects the right of purchasing and trading in slaves within the African dominions of the crown of Portugal. It is, however, to be distinctly understood, that the stipulations of the present article are not to be considered as invalidating or otherwise affecting the rights of the crown of Portugal to the territories of Cabinda and Molembo (which rights have formerly been questioned by the government of France), nor as limiting or restraining the commerce of Ajuda and other ports in Africa (situated upon the coast commonly called, in the Portuguese language, the Costa de Mina) belonging to or claimed by the crown of Portugal; his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal being resolved not to resign nor forego his just and legitimate pretensions thereto, nor the rights of his subjects to trade with those places, *exactly in the same manner as they have hitherto done*."

It should seem that this article cannot be honourable to the candour of the Portuguese government.

On the 28th of April, Vice-Admiral the Honourable Sir Alexander Forrester Cochrane, K.B., was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Guadaloupe and its dependencies.

The British government ordered its governors in the West Indies to maintain a perfect neutrality in the contest between Spain and Spanish America, upon condition that the new governments should act in the name of Ferdinand the Seventh.

This order is directly contrary to the instructions published by

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African Institution, 5th Report, pp. 116, 117.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 366.
Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America, p. 346.

General Picton, the governor of Trinidad, in 1797, which see. The relative situation between the two mother countries had doubtlessly altered, but how far England was right, after having encouraged the colonies to shake off the yoke, in leaving them to struggle through the contest by themselves, is a question which the reader must decide for himself.

Lord Liverpool, in his letter to the governor of Curaçoa, dated June 29th, 1810, stated, that England "would discourage any steps leading to a separation from the mother country, unless under such circumstances as should place Spain in the hands of the French. In this case she should assist the colonies to become perfectly independent, to prove an asylum for such Spaniards as did not choose to remain in Spain in the humiliated state to which it would be reduced." From this prudent intimation, the colonies presumed that England, except in the emergency of the French power being absolute in Spain, would allow them to follow the dictates of their own breasts, and preserve a strict neutrality.

The population of Montserrat was computed not to exceed 1300 Whites and 9000 Negroes.

Dr. Coke says, from the principal planters being Roman Catholics, and strongly attached to the intolerant principles of that persuasion, no opening offered for a Methodist missionary, but that a small company of about twelve persons, who were under the influence of grace, were regularly met, in a private manner, once a week, by a pious brother of colour.

The number of slaves in Trinidad were reported to be 20,729.

The number of slaves in Jamaica were reported to be 313,683.

The number of Negroes imported into the Havaña since 1789 was 110,136; and it was estimated that 34,000 more were brought into the other ports in Cuba.

One act has passed since July, 1810, on the subject of slaves, intituled "An act to repeal an act, intituled An act to revive and continue divers acts of this island" (Barbadoes), which repeals an old act, dated June 8th, 1681, which prohibited Quakers from carrying Negroes to their meetings, and which has been a dead letter many years, there being in fact no Quakers in Barbadoes.

Lord Liverpool's Letter to the Governor of Curaçoa, 29th June, 1810.
Caldcleugh's Travels in South America, vol. ii. p. 23.
Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 409.
Reasons for establishing a Registry of Slaves, London, 1815, p. 27.
Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves. Appendix.
Inquiry into the Duty of compelling Spain to relinquish the Slave Trade in Northern Africa, 1816, p. 57. Official Papers presented to House of Commons, 1815.

L'Oreste, of fourteen guns, was taken on the 12th of January, off Guadaloupe, by Captain Stanfell, in the Scorpion, of eighteen guns.

The Levrette, of four guns, was taken, off the Saints, on March the 17th, by Captain Mends, in his Majesty's ship Arethusa.

His Majesty's sloop Achates, of ten guns, Captain T. Pinto, was wrecked: crew saved.

Steele's Navy List.

The number of slaves, returned into the treasurer's office at Barbadoes, was 69,149.

In December, the population of Santa Cruz consisted of 1625 Whites; 2000 free people of colour; 15,518 taxable Negroes. Negroes not taxable: women, 7606; girls, 3034. Births: boys, 316; girls, 322. Deaths: males, 377; females, 313. Total, not taxable, 11,968.

The annual crop, averaged on the three preceding years, was, hogsheads of sugar, 22,518; puncheons of rum, 11,883; casks of molasses, 60; number of estates, 380.

The population of Antigua consisted of 3000 Whites, and about 37,000 slaves. The average annual export of sugar was estimated at 16,000 hogsheads.

The total number of slaves, male and female, in the Bermudas as ascertained by a census taken in November, 1810, amounted to 4794.

The total number of white inhabitants, male and female, as ascertained by the above-recited document, amounted to 4755. The total number of free persons, as ascertained by the aforesaid document, in males and females, amounted to 451.

These islands contain nine parishes, including 12,161 acres. These nine parishes are divided into three livings, the incumbents of which are all resident, and are of the following value:—

St. George's living amounts to - -	£320
Pembroke living, including surplice fees -	236
Port Royal ditto - - - -	165
Total per annum -	721 currency —

equal to £480 13*s*. 6*d*. sterling.

St. George's contains 2143 acres, 696 white inhabitants, male and female; 596 Negro slaves, and 180 free people of colour; in all 1472 souls. Pembroke district contains four parishes, 5000 acres, 1874 white inhabitants, 1893 Negroes, and 146 free people of colour; in all 3915 souls. Port Royal district contains four parishes, 5018 acres, and 2185 white inhabitants, 2483 Negro slaves, and 125 free people of colour; in all 4793 souls. There is one Presbyterian clergyman, and one Methodist missionary, in these islands. The Presbyterian clergyman is allowed about £100 currency per annum by his hearers, exclusive of perquisites. The Methodist missionary, perhaps, receives the same sum in voluntary contributions from his hearers. There never has been any law passed in these islands for the protection or melioration of the condition of slaves. No act has ever been passed by the legislature, or

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Coke's West Indies, vol. ii. p. 416.

Courier, December 30th, 1815. Papers laid before the House of Commons.

any corporate body, within these islands, that can in any manner tend to restrict, encourage, or regulate the religious worship of slaves.

On the 23d of August, Robert Gordon, Esq. was appointed governor of Berbice.

1811.

" Ominous symptoms of the public feeling appeared both at Guadaloupe and Martinico. In the former island, language was used in the court of appeal, by the French procureur-general, which the governor, Sir Alexander Cochrane, denounced as scandalous, audacious, and libellous, and for which he dismissed the speaker; in the latter it was thought necessary to order all arms and ammunition to be delivered up, and to make a search lest the order should be evaded. This feeling of the inhabitants was shewn more plainly at Guadaloupe, in consequence of a proclamation calling upon them to enrol themselves in a newly-formed militia intended to preserve the internal security of the island; but this intention was not defined with sufficient precision in the proclamation, and the people imagining that they were to be employed in defending the island against foreign attack, refused to serve. Only one single man appeared on the day appointed, the officers' commissions were all returned on the ground that any individual taking up arms against the French would forfeit the property which he might possess in France, in the event of a peace.

" At Martinico, a conspiracy to seize the town of St. Pierre was formed by a free Mulatto named Moliere, who was a native of the island and a viscount of the black empire. It was discovered on the 17th of September, the day before the time appointed for the attack. Some of the principals were taken in arms. Moliere, finding it impossible to escape, blew out his brains. Fifteen were hung.

" The persons who suffered for this conspiracy were all either Negroes or Mulattoes. Their object is said to have been to massacre the white men, and imitate in all things their brethren in Hayti; but from the proclamation of General Wale, it appears that republican and revolutionary opinions, which were at this time as little likely to have been brought from the black empire as from Buonaparte's faithful city of Paris, had gained ground in the island, and prepared the way for an insurrection. " Some individuals," he said, " from bad intentions, and others from imprudence, had of late made it their particular business to comment upon the contents of the public papers, to discuss the opinions of journalists, and therefrom to deduce conclusions alarming to that system which had

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Edinburgh Annual Register, 1810, p. 366.; 1811, pp. 192, 193.

for 200 years secured the prosperity of the archipelago. The persons who thus," in the governor's words, "paved the way for the seduction of the inferior classes, by throwing out opinions that have been repeated upwards of half a century by revolutionary writers, were men, who having risen to the rank of freemen from the effects of the colonial beneficence, might be expected to have nothing left them to wish for but the prosperity of the country wherein they advantageously exercised their industry, under the protection of the laws."

"Christophe, Henry I. King of Hayti, was born a slave in that island of the West Indies from which he takes his name, and was still a slave in St. Domingo in the year 1791. The early friend and the faithful adherent of Toussaint, he bore a considerable resemblance to him in character. His military talents were very respectable, and his courage unshaken; his disposition humane and benevolent. In the exercise of all the social virtues he has been eminently distinguished; he was a good husband, a good father, a steady friend, and strict in the observance of all the duties of religion and morality. Contrary to the common custom among his black countrymen, he attached himself in early life to one woman, whom he never forsook; and that woman, in 1811, was Queen of Hayti, beloved by all ranks and conditions. Henry is said to have possessed a propriety and dignity of manner seldom attained by an uneducated man. Gifted with strong natural talents, he soon acquired the habit both of speaking and writing well. His proclamations, said to be generally dictated by himself, are compositions of which the most civilized cabinets of Europe might not be ashamed." "His colour and features are completely Negro; but his countenance was represented as very intelligent, agreeable, and expressive. In person and appearance he was said to bear a strong resemblance to our venerable Sovereign, and the respect felt for him by the British merchants was not on that account diminished. His common dress, which was that of the Windsor uniform, but without lace or star, added to the likeness."

"Christophe possessed the north side of the French part of Hayti. He was crowned on the 2d of June. A few days before the coronation took place, he created princes, dukes, counts, barons, and chevaliers, by a sort of political licence or anachronism, that they might give more splendour to the appointed ceremony, by attending in their robes of silk or satin, white, purple, and blue, with embroidered mantles and nodding plumes. His archbishop, who was said to be a German, and a man of learning, officiated. The coronation was performed in the Champ de Mars, where canopies were erected for the occasion. Christophe and his sable consort came in a carriage drawn by eight white horses. He put the crown on his own head before

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Quarterly Review, September, 1819, pp. 451, 452.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1811, p. 194.

he delivered it to the archbishop to be replaced there; but though in this he seems to have imitated Buonaparte, Henry the First of Hayti, as he stiles himself, had a due remembrance of the wrongs which his countrymen had received from that cruel and perfidious tyrant, and at a dinner after the coronation, to which all the English and American merchants were invited, his first toast was, 'My brother, the King of Great Britain!' his second, 'May he prosper, and be successful against Buonaparte, and continue the barrier between that tyrant and this kingdom.'

"The black King Henry, in honour of his own name, created a black legion of honour, which he called the order of St. Henry, and with better reasons than can usually be assigned for such changes, he altered the name of his capital from Cape François to to Cape Henry, and took an effectual means of bringing the new name into general use, by ordering that every letter directed to Cape François, should be destroyed. He began to build a palace, which was to be in the centre of a fort, upon which neither skill, nor labour, nor expence was spared to render it impregnable. His fleet consisted at this time of one forty-four gun frigate, nine sloops of war, eleven brigs, from twenty-two to fourteen guns, and a number of schooners, each manned with about 100 men. His edicts, 'by the grace of God and of the constitutional law,' his balls and operas, his great seal, and ministers of state, his Royal Gazette, with its motto from Voltaire —

> 'Le premier qui fut roi fut un soldat heureux,
> Qui sert bien son pays n'a point besoin d'aieux.'

his grand crosses, his nobles, and his hierarchy, bore all the outward marks of civilization." "For the trappings of royalty, with all the spectacles which its display can afford, the black King Henry shewed as decided a taste as if he had been a true Frenchman by blood, instead of education. A set of regalia and jewels, consisting of crowns, crosses, gold spurs, a gold and silver plume set with rubies, amethysts, and topazes, diamond ear-rings, collar, and tiara, were made for him in London, and had the singular fortune to be seized by the custom-house officers, his agent having neglected to make an entry of them. They were, however, released by the treasury as far as the rights of the government were concerned. Some magnificent suits of robes for himself and his queen were in the same consignment; they were of mazarine velvet, lined with ermine, and embroidered with stars of gold."

"Christophe has about 10,000 troops, all Negroes. The opposite side of the island is held by his rival, General Petion, at the head of the mixed race, a less numerous but better instructed population. This race may, perhaps, ultimately be destined to possess these countries; it is continually on the increase, while

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Quarterly Review, September, 1819, p. 451.

the pure races are only kept up by continual importations, and the mixture of European mind with the African constitution renders them capable of labour under a tropical climate, like the one race, and prone to civilization like the other. Petion is said to be a man of more acquirements and greater humanity than Christophe. A third party was formed in the centre of the island under Philippe Dòs, a man whom Toussaint had favoured; he is said to allure followers, by professing never to engage in war, except in self-defence. A community of Negroes in the interior, though they may profess these principles, will soon become a race of Maroons. In the course of the year, Rigaud, who acted a conspicuous part during our unhappy interference with the island, arrived at Aux Cayes from France, as an emissary, it was supposed, from Buonaparte; he might probably have formed another party, but he died soon after his arrival.

" Christophe is said, notwithstanding his protestations of friendship for his brother the King of Great Britain, to aim at exciting a general insurrection of the slaves throughout the islands, and his courtiers and agents continually hold him up as the avenger of the African race. Suspicions of this kind were evidently felt at Jamaica, where many persons, accused of being emissaries from Hayti, were from time to time apprehended and banished. About 250 strangers were sent out of Jamaica in the months of July and August this year, on the suspicion that they were agents of Christophe and Rigaud. That such plans have been carried on, the conspiracy at Martinico unequivocally proves, and this imminent danger will always continue to exist so long as the colonial system of slavery is in existence. How that system destroys all sense of honour and humanity, in certain natures, was shewn at this time by one more case of atrocity, in addition to the bloody list before the British parliament.

" A planter in the island of Nevis, by name Huggins, accompanied with his two sons, brought two and thirty Negroes into the public market of Charlestown, and stood by to see them flogged with cart-whips by two expert whippers. Many of these victims were women, one of whom received 212 lashes, another 291; one man 187, another 242, another 365. Five magistrates were within sight or hearing of this accursed scene, and none of them interfered, though the law authorized their interference, and a sense of duty as Christians, or even of decency as men, required it. By the laws of Jamaica, no master or magistrate is suffered to inflict, in any case, more than thirty-nine lashes; and by the Melioration Act of the Leeward Islands, passed in the year 1798, with the same intent, it is enacted, 'that if any person shall cruelly whip, maltreat, beat, or imprison, or keep in confinement, without sufficient support, any slave, such person shall be indicted for the same in the

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Quarterly Review, September, 1819, p. 195.

superior court of criminal jurisdiction for the island wherein the offence shall be committed, and, upon being legally convicted, suffer such punishment, by fine or imprisonment, or both, as the judge of the court shall think proper to inflict.' The house of assembly of the island passed resolutions that Huggins had been guilty of an act of barbarity altogether unprecedented in Nevis; that they held his conduct in the utmost abhorrence and detestation, and that they pledged themselves to promote the strictest investigation into this cruel proceeding, so disgraceful to humanity, so injurious to the fair character of the inhabitants, and so destructive of the best interests of the West India colonies. Huggins was accordingly indicted, and brought to trial. His son-in-law's overseer, and his own, were on the jury, together with so many of his friends, that when the jury was impannelled, a by-stander observed there were ten for Mr. Huggins and two against him, upon which one of his counsel replied, that those two should not have been there had he known it. The facts were public, notorious, and admitted on the part of the criminal; the defence was, that the punishment was necessary; but notwithstanding the evidence of one of his sons, who was as deeply implicated in the guilt and infamy of the transaction as himself, and the ingenuity of the three council, it could not be proved that any one of the thirty-two sufferers had ever lifted a hand against a white man, or ever uttered a contumacious expression. Their crime was that of having run away to avoid carrying out dung by night, a practice contrary to a clause in the Melioration Act. Huggins was nevertheless acquitted, and the printer of the St. Christopher Gazette was prosecuted for a libel, for having published the resolutions of the house of assembly, and the affidavits upon which they were founded, found guilty and fined.

"One of the women never worked with the hoe again after this flogging, and in the course of a few months died of an atrophy. The coroner's inquest, consisting of three persons, pronounced that 'she had no marks of violence appearing on her body, and died by the visitation of God, in a natural way, and not otherwise.' Two of these three persons were on the jury which acquitted Huggins, and the coroner was one of the magistrates who had beheld this transaction with unconcern. Huggins, who had amassed a great fortune, had long been notorious for cruelty. It was reported in the island, that he had once shot a Negro; the body had been thrown into a Negro hut, and burnt with it. Upon another occasion he escaped indictment for the death of one who died after a most inhuman flogging, because the overseer refused to give any satisfactory evidence to the grand jury. In the course of six months after he took possession of one of his estates, nine Negroes died upon it without any epidemic disease. The bodies of two

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Quarterly Review, September, 1819, p. 196.

poor wretches, who had committed suicide to escape from his cruelty, were taken out of a cistern with their chains about them. Chains and whips were not sufficient instruments of punishment for this man, he employed iron collars with spikes. Five times had his life been attempted by poison; it is only wonderful that it was not more openly assailed. His doctrine was, that it was cheaper to buy Negroes than breed them; and upon this principle he acted.

"These shocking transactions became generally known in consequence of a letter addressed to Mr. Elliot, the governor-in-chief of the Leeward Islands on his arrival to take possession of his government, by Mr. James Tobin, brother to the author of the Honey Moon, and himself a man of letters, highly and deservedly esteemed by all to whom he is known. 'Cruelty,' he said, 'was not defined by our ancestors, nor its limits marked out by line and compass, but left to the heart of man to determine, and deeply was it to be lamented that in that little community such an appeal was found insufficient. Had the whole of the thirty-two Negroes tortured by this man's orders died, the act by which they suffered being, according to the declaration, a legal act, the author of it would have been guiltless in law, and every overseer in the country, however ignorant or brutal, left at full liberty to whip, maltreat, and destroy at his pleasure the slaves committed to his charge.' Under the circumstances, Mr. Tobin announced his intention of proposing to the legislature of the island some laws for the better protection of slaves. Speaking of himself, he added, 'Of the author of this letter, it is sufficient to say, that he exists only by the labour of Negro slaves, and from them derives most of the comforts he enjoys, as well as those advantages of education which have taught him what return he owes to them.'

"The case was represented to our own government, and Lord Liverpool immediately desired the governor to send home authentic copies of the whole proceedings, and at the same time to signify to the house of assembly of Nevis his Majesty's full approbation of the sentiments which they had expressed, and the conduct which they pursued on this occasion. When the documents had been inspected, Lord Liverpool said they made the deepest impression on his Majesty's government. 'It might,' said he, 'have been hoped that the fear of disgrace attendant on an outrage of humanity so publicly exhibited would have been sufficient, in any civilized country, for its prevention; but it never could have been supposed possible that so flagrant a violation of the Melioration Act could be submitted to the cognizance of a court of justice, and be exempted from the punishment which the judge is empowered to inflict on conviction of the offender.' His lordship then delivered the Prince Regent's commands, that the magistrates who had witnessed this

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cruelty without interfering, should be removed from the honourable situation which they held, and that this should be done with that degree of publicity which might mark to the community his Royal Highness's reprobation of their culpable remissness. His lordship concluding by recommending the immediate adoption of a clause corresponding to that of the Jamaica act, by the different colonial legislatures. 'For although it may be feared,' said he, 'that the limitation of the number alone of the lashes which may be inflicted will prove inadequate to prevent even excessive severity where the disposition to it exists, still, by proving the anxiety of the legislature to define and mitigate the degree of punishment, a moral effect may be produced, leading to consequences that are sought from the operations of the law itself.'

"Concerning the manner in which the jury which had acquitted this wretch was composed, and the feelings by which it was influenced, government felt properly, and only remarked, that at that distance of time it might be difficult to *prove* that corrupt motives had influenced the decision. Governor Elliot, in his letter upon this subject, had been naturally and unavoidably led to speak of the state of the governments in Nevis and St. Kitt's, and the general dissatisfaction which existed. 'I do not apprehend,' said he, 'that the defects complained of are to be ascribed principally to the remissness or culpability of their leading members. The root of the evil lies deeper. The governments of the smaller islands were formed in times when many of the proprietors lived upon their estates, and the white population was, in some instances, perhaps, ten times as numerous as it now is. Of the few white inhabitants who remain, managers, overseers, self-created lawyers, self-educated physicians, and adventurous merchants, with little real capital and scanty credit, compose the greatest part. The acquirements of education among many of this description of persons are very unequal to the task of taking a share in the governments. The prevalence of principle, either moral or religious, is also, I fear, not to be fairly calculated from the repetition of the hacknied expressions of which an ostentatious use is frequently made in addresses, and on all occasions meant to meet the public eye at home. To collect from such a state of society men fit to be legislators, judges, or jurymen, is perfectly impracticable; individual interest, personal influence, animosity of party feuds, weigh down the scale of justice, and divert the course of legislative authority into acts of arbitrary and unjustifiable power, cloaked under the semblance and dignified with the name of constitutional acts.' These remarks, which it was the duty of Governor Elliot to make for the information of ministers, were most assuredly not intended for the public eye; they were, nevertheless, printed among the papers upon this subject which were laid before parliament. The consequence was, the

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Quarterly Review, September, 1819, p. 198.

assembly of St. Kitt's, feeling these general truths as individual insults, were exasperated against the governor, and passed angry resolutions concerning him, to be transmitted to the Earl of Liverpool, and printed in the public papers."

A supplement to the St. Thomas's Gazette, of the 9th of April, gives the following particulars of the earthquake in Venezuela:—

"The 26th of March has been a day of woe and horror to the province of Venezuela. At four P.M. the city of Caraccas stood in all its splendour; a few minutes later, 4500 houses, nineteen churches and convents, together with all the other public buildings, monuments, &c., were crushed to atoms by a sudden shock of an earthquake, which did not last a minute, and buried thousands of the devoted inhabitants in ruins and desolation.

"That day happened to be Holy Thursday, and at the precise hour every place of worship was crowded, to commemorate the commencement of our Saviour's passion by public procession, which was to proceed through the streets a few minutes afterwards. The number of hapless sufferers was thus augmented to an incredible amount, as every church was levelled with the ground before any person could be aware of danger. The number of sufferers taken out of one of the churches (two days after this disaster) amounted alone to upwards of 300 corpses. An idea of the extent of the number of dead is differently stated from four to six, and as far as eight thousand. Horrible as this catastrophe appears, it would be a matter of some consolation to know, that the vicinity of that city offered some support or shelter to the surviving mourners; but the next town and sea-port thereto, viz. La Guayra, has, in proportion, suffered still more, as well as its immediate coast.

"Huge masses of the mountains detached themselves from the summits, and hurled down into the vallies. Deep clefts and separations of the immense bed of rocks still threaten future disasters to the hapless survivors, who are now occupied in burying and burning the dead, and in relieving the numerous wounded and cripples perishing for want of surgical aid, shelter, and other comforts."

Captain Cuthbert, of the ship Highlander, who was at an anchor off La Guayra, says, "When the shock was first felt on board, every person was impressed with the feeling that the ship was beating to pieces on the rocks. On my going on shore, the most awful and afflicting scene presented itself; hundreds of the suffering inhabitants were seen mixed with heaps of ruins, and many of them still alive, with their heads out, imploring assistance from their fellow-citizens, who, instead of affording them aid, were throwing themselves prostrate before images, beating their breasts, and imploring for themselves the protection of their saints."

Evening Mail, May 28th, 29th.

Upon the 8th of May, the Honourable Arthur William Hodge, Esq. was executed behind the gaol at Tortola, for the murder of his slave Prosper.

The facts sworn to in the different depositions which led to the apprehension and trial of Mr. Hodge were in substance as follows:—

"1. In January, 1806, a slave named Welcome, belonging to Mr. Hodge, was employed by him as a hunter to go in quest of runaway slaves. After hunting for four or five days, he returned home unsuccessful; in consequence of which, he was laid down, by Hodge's order, and severely cart-whipped. He was immediately sent out to hunt a second time, and in a few days again returned unsuccessful, when, with his old wounds uncured, he was a second time, by Hodge's order, laid down and severely cart-whipped. Welcome was immediately sent out hunting a third time, and returning in a few days, with the same success as before, he was again severely cart-whipped, by Hodge's order, and put in very heavy irons, with a pudding on each leg and a crook round his neck, and in the night time he was confined in the bilboes or stocks. He was at the same time allowed little or no food, and consequently became so weak that he could scarcely walk. In this condition, with dreadful sores occasioned by his former whippings, he was ordered to go to a neighbouring estate, but being unable to proceed, he fell down on the road, and, being carried home, he was again cart-whipped, and died in consequence the same night.

2. Mr. Hodge having suspected two female slaves, Margaret, his cook, and Else, a washerwoman, of a design to poison Mrs. Hodge and his children, he poured a quantity of boiling water down their throats; and, having after this severely cart-whipped them, and chained them together, he sent them, in a state of entire nakedness, to work in the field. Both these slaves languished for a short time in a miserable condition, and then died. On the day that Margaret died, one of the deponents going into the kitchen, and observing she was stupified, asked her what was the matter; on which she pulled a handkerchief from her head, and shewed two very severe wounds, which she said Mr. Hodge had given her. She soon after fell on her face, and, being carried to the sick-house, died that evening. Mr. Hodge had been heard to say, that he was resolved neither of these women should live long.

"3. Some time before the death of Margaret, one of the deponents saw, in the sick house, a child about ten years of age, named Tamsen, with the skin entirely off. The deponent asked the sick-nurse what was the matter with the child, but the sick-nurse refused to give an answer, and seemed afraid lest her master should know that the child had been seen. On inquiry it appeared, that the child had been dipped, by Hodge's order, into a copper of boiling liquor.

African Institution, 6th Report, Appendix. Abstract of Papers laid before the House of Commons, p. 60.

"4. In the year 1807, a slave called Tom Boiler, a stout, hale, hearty man, was, by Hodge's order, and in his presence, laid down and flogged, without intermission, for at least an hour. After this infliction he attempted to rise, but could not. He was taken up and carried to the sick-house, whence he never came out, but died in about a week. No doctor was called to attend him.

"5. Soon after the death of Tom Boiler, another slave, named Prosper, was, by Hodge's order, and in his presence, laid down, and, for more than an hour, cart-whipped without intermission. He was then taken by Hodge's order, and, with his hands tied behind his back, lashed to a tree; Hodge then ordered the driver to use "close quarters," meaning by this expression, a more cruel and severe cart-whipping than is ordinarily used; the whip in this case being shortened, and going all round the belly, and making at the same time comparatively little noise. In this situation, Prosper was beaten till he fainted; his head hanging down backwards, and was no longer able to cry out. He was then carried to the sick-house, where, within a fortnight, he died.

"6. A slave, named Jupiter, about nineteen years of age, was, by Hodge's orders, severely cart-whipped, put in heavy irons, crook puddings, &c., and allowed little or nothing to eat. He was also burnt in the mouth with a hot iron. He died shortly after.

"7. On the 27th of March, 1807, a new Negro slave, belonging to Hodge, was cart-whipped in his master's presence, in the most cruel manner. He died in two or three days after. When his body was carried out on a board to be buried, it was seen by one of the witnesses in a shockingly lacerated state.

"8. A free man, named Peter, was hired by Hodge as a cooper, at two joes per month. This man, though free, was repeatedly cart-whipped at close quarters, and in every other way, by order, and in the presence of Hodge, who also put chains upon him, and had him worked with the field Negroes. Peter soon died.

"9. In 1808, a young slave named Cuffy was, by order of Hodge, and in his presence, severely and repeatedly cart-whipped, chained, &c. 'He was cut to pieces,' and had hardly any black skin remaining. After a cart-whipping which lasted upwards of an hour, he was carried to the sick-house, where he died within a week.

"10. Mr. Hodge frequently caused the children on his estate, about nine years of age, to be taken up by the heels, and dipped into tubs of water with their heads downwards, and kept there till stifled; then taken out and suffered to recover and breathe, when they were again treated in the same manner, and so repeatedly, until they have been seen to stagger and fall. On this Mr. Hodge has ordered them to be taken up and suspended to a tree by their hands tied together, and in this situation cart-whipped for some

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African Institution, 6th Report, Appendix. Abstract of Papers laid before the House of Commons, pp. 61, 62.

time at close quarters. Among others, a Mulatto child, reputed to be his own, named Bella, was repeatedly cart-whipped by his order; and he was also seen repeatedly to strike the child with a stick on the head, so as to break her head; and also to kick her so violently as to send her several feet on the ground.

"11. A slave, named Cudjoe, a smart active fellow, was so severely and repeatedly cart-whipped, and otherwise ill-treated by Hodge, that he died. Another slave, named Gift, who had also previously been in good health, after having been severely cart-whipped and chained, was again, with his wounds unhealed, subjected to a further severe cart-whipping, and died the same night. One of the deponents saw the body carried out for burial in a dreadful state of laceration.

"12. A Negro woman, named Violet, belonging to Mr. Hodge, was confined, and severely flogged and cut by him, for the alleged crime of stealing candles. She died in consequence. A boy, a son of this woman, run away through his master flogging him. When brought back, he was put in chains, and so severely flogged, that he died. One of the deponents saw the boy a week before he died, and perceived, from his weak and lacerated state, that he could not possibly recover.

"13. A boy named Dick, whom Mr. Hodge charged with having stolen his geese, was very often flogged severely, and in quick succession, at close quarters, and otherwise; in consequence of which he died. He had also been put in chains, and had his mouth burnt with a hot iron.

"14. One of the deponents, besides swearing to several of the above facts, stated, for several years, during which the deponent resided on Mr. Hodge's estate, Mr. H. had been guilty of repeated and excessive acts of cruelty towards his slaves. Another deponent, who had lived at different periods as a manager on the estate of Mr. Hodge, called Belle Vue, and who was also a witness to many of the atrocities detailed above, swore, that at most of the numerous and severe cart-whippings inflicted by Mr. Hodge on his slaves, he was not actually present; Mr. Hodge generally choosing to inflict them without the presence of any competent witness; but that, in addition to the instances at which he happened to be present, and which are mentioned above, there were many others where he saw only the effects of Hodge's cruelty in the lacerations, burnt mouths, &c. of the slaves. He was satisfied these cruelties were inflicted by Hodge himself, as otherwise he should have heard him inquire and complain concerning these marks of suffering in his own Negroes. It was scarcely possible to remain in the sick-house, on account of the offensive smell from the corrupted wounds of cart-whipped slaves. When this deponent first went to live on Mr. Hodge's estate, there

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African Institution, 6th Report, Appendix. Abstract of Papers laid before the House of Commons, p 63.

was upon it a fine gang of upwards of a hundred able Negroes; but when the last wife of Hodge died, in 1808, that number was so reduced by cruelty, and absconding in consequence of cruelty, that Negroes enough were not to be found on the estate to dig her grave; and therefore the deponent, and Daniel Ross, Esq., one of the magistrates who signed his deposition, assisted in digging it. He could not remember the names of all the Negroes who had died in consequence of the cruelties of Hodge, but he knew the number to be great. Sometimes three or four have died in the course of a day and night. On such occasions no doctor was ever called in. He lived in all about three years with Mr. Hodge; and in that time he was satisfied that Hodge lost sixty Negroes, at least, by the severity of his punishments; and he believed that only one Negro died a natural death during the same period."

On these dreadful facts being brought before Governor Elliot, he immediately issued a special commission for the trial of the offender. The trial took place on the 29th of April, and lasted from ten in the morning till half past five on the morning of the 30th.

"The first witness called to prove the charge was a free woman of colour of the name of Pareen Georges. She stated that she was in the habit of attending at Mr. Hodge's estate to wash linen; that one day Prosper came to her to borrow six shillings, being the sum that his master required of him because a mango had fallen from the tree which he (Prosper) was set to watch. He told the witness that he must either find the six shillings or be flogged; that the witness had only three shillings, which she gave him; but it did not appease Mr. Hodge; that Prosper was flogged for upwards of an hour, receiving more than 100 lashes, and threatened by his master that if he did not bring the remaining three shillings on the next day, the flogging should be repeated; that the next day he was tied to a tree, and flogged for such a length of time with the thong of the whip doubled, that his head fell back, and that he could bawl no more. From thence he was carried to the sick-house, and chained to two other Negroes; that he remained in this confinement during five days, at the end of which time his companions broke away, and thereby released him; that he was unable to abscond; that he went to the Negro houses and shut himself up; that he was found there dead, and in a state of putrefaction, some days afterwards; that crawlers were in his wounds, and not a piece of black flesh was to be seen on the hinder part of his body where he had been flogged.

"Stephen M'Keogh, a white man, who had lived as manager on Mr. Hodge's estate, deposed, that he saw the deceased (Prosper) after he had been so severely flogged; that he could put his finger in his side. He saw him some days before his death in a cruel state,

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African Institution, 6th Report, Appendix. Abstract of Papers laid before the House of Commons, p. 64.
Edinburgh Annual Register, 1811, p. 140.

he could not go near him for the blue flies. Mr. Hodge had told the witness whilst he was in his employ, that if the work of the estate was not done, he was satisfied if he heard the whip.

"This was the evidence against the prisoner. His counsel in their attempt to impeach the veracity of the witnesses, called evidence as to his general character, which disclosed instances of still greater barbarity on the part of Hodge. Pareen Georges swore that he had occasioned the death of his cook, Margaret, by pouring boiling water down her throat.

"Before the jury retired, the prisoner addressed them: 'Gentlemen, as bad as I have been represented, or as bad as you may think me, I assure you, that I feel support in my affliction from entertaining a proper sense of religion. As all men are subject to wrong, I cannot but say that that principle is inherent in me. I acknowledge myself guilty in regard to many of my slaves; but I call God to witness my innocence in respect of the murder of Prosper. I am sensible that the country thirsts for my blood, and I am ready to sacrifice it.'

"The jury, after deliberating for two hours, brought in a verdict of guilty; but the majority of the jurors recommended the prisoner to mercy. To this recommendation, Governor Elliot refused to pay any attention. Such, however, was the state of irritation produced by the novel and unprecedented circumstance of a white man condemned to death on account of the murder of his own slave, and such the dread of an attempt on the part of the white population for his rescue, that Governor Elliot, who had judged it prudent to proceed to Tortola in person, that he might be at hand to watch the course of events, felt himself under the necessity of proclaiming martial law, calling out the colonial militia, and availing himself of the aid of a frigate in order to awe the turbulent into submission. In consequence of these measures, the threatened disturbance was prevented, and the sentence of the law was regularly executed. The governor observes in his dispatch, 'The state of irritation, and I may almost say of anarchy, in which I have found this colony (Tortola), rendered the above measures indispensible for the preservation of tranquillity, and for ensuring the due execution of the fatal sentence of the law against the late Arthur Hodge. Indeed it is too probable that, without my presence here, as commander-in-chief, in a conjuncture so replete with party animosity, unpleasant occurrences might have ensued.'"

The reply of Lord Liverpool to these communications is so highly honourable to him, that it is right to give it entire. It is dated the 20th of June, 1811.

"I received your several dispatches from No. 34 to 41 inclusive; and however deep the indignation which your former letters, in reference to the case of Mr. Huggins have excited, and however strong my apprehension that the law, as at present administered,

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African Institution, 6th Report, p. 64.

is inadequate to the prevention of similar excesses, I could still little have expected the additional detail of cruelties that is therein conveyed.

"The individual by whom they were perpetrated has suffered the severest and most ignominious punishment the law can inflict; and it only now remains for me to express an earnest hope, that this rare example of just retribution may effect that change in the treatment of the unfortunate slaves, which it should require no other motives to produce than the common feeling of humanity towards a fellow creature, or even the common regard to public decency.

"I am commanded by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to convey to you the high satisfaction he has derived from your anxious endeavours, on this occasion, to secure impartial justice on the trial, and the solemn execution of the sentence; and his full approbation of your conduct in not permitting the intercession of the individuals who partly composed the jury by which Mr. Hodge was tried, to suspend the termination of that iniquitous career which he had but too long been suffered to pursue.

"You are authorized to make every reasonable compensation to those individuals who may have been inconvenienced by personal attendance on the part of the prosecution.

"I have received the further command of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to desire that you will take an opportunity of publicly assuring the council and assembly of the Virgin Islands, that his Royal Highness has had the greatest pleasure in witnessing their anxiety to co-operate with you in the cause of humanity and justice; and you will acquaint them, on the part of his Royal Highness, that his Royal Highness cannot receive from them a more flattering assurance of their regard to the wishes of their sovereign, and of the interest they feel in supporting the honour of the British name, than their anxious endeavours to ameliorate the condition of that class of beings whose bitter and dependent lot entitles them to every protection and support."

The legislature of Tortola voted an address to Governor Elliot upon his letter to Lord Liverpool. The governor replied by expressions of esteem for the inhabitants, and stated that nothing in his letter was derogatory to their character. The legislature in consequence voted him another £1000 a year in addition to his salary.

Sir William Young, the governor of Tobago, in his official report, ascribes the excess of deaths over births among the slaves *on the smaller plantations*, to "the pressure of mortgages and personal need inducing the planters to scant and overwork their slaves." As it can be clearly shewn that embarrassed circumstances, insolvency, and ruin, have always been the lot of a large proportion of the

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African Institution, 6th Report, p. 65. Evening Mail, 1812.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 93.

planters of the sugar colonies, and that the consequences of such pressure on the master are, that the slaves are "scanted and overworked," it follows, that the miseries of the slaves from this cause have at all times been enormously great.

He also says, "Instances of bad treatment and cruelty, and of unjust and immoderate punishments of slaves, I think, occur exclusively within the narrow trading or household circles of unattached slaves; and, I am sorry to say, have frequently been reported to me with circumstances of atrocity to be believed, though (for reasons I shall give) not to be proved, against lower white or coloured people, domineering over from two to ten or more wretched beings, their slaves. In such cases, what protection by law have the slaves against the abuse of power over them by the Europeans or other free people? I think the slaves have by law no protection. In this, and I doubt not in every other island, there are laws for the protection of slaves, and good ones; but circumstances, in the administration of whatever law, render it a dead letter.

"When the intervention of the law is most required it will have the least effect, as in cases where a vindictive and cruel master has care to commit the most atrocious cruelties, even to murder his slave, no free person being present to witness the act. There appears to me a radical defect in the administration of justice throughout the West Indies, in whatever case the wrongs done to a slave are under consideration; or rather, that justice cannot in truth be administered, controlled as it is by a law of evidence which covers the most guilty European with impunity, provided that when, having a criminal intent, he is cautious not to commit the crime in the presence of a free witness.

"On small plantations there is but one free person, the resident manager, and no slave can appear against him. In the back yard of a jobber of a small gang for hire, in the workshop or outbuildings of each artizan or petty tradesman, and within every house, the greatest cruelties may be exercised on a slave without a possibility of conviction. I should consider it as inconsistent with the respect and deference I bear to the sagacity and wisdom of the august body for whose use this report is framed, to idly enlarge it with the enumeration of humane laws for the protection of slaves, all rendered nugatory by the conditions of evidence required in their administration."

After this, what are we to think of assemblies, who say "the slaves are amply protected by law?"

Dominica. — Governor Barnes, in his report, states, "There has been no Protestant church in the island for very many years; and, previously to my taking charge of the government, there had been no clergyman resident for a considerable time. I fear," he added, "it will be some time longer before the church will be built,

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Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 168. 211.

as ten years have now elapsed since an act was passed for the purpose, and the foundation stone has not yet been laid."

At Dominica, Governor Barnes found it necessary to dissolve two successive houses of assembly, one having refused to vote the necessary supplies, and the other having declined to meet in October, 1811, during a period of general alarm, on the discovery of a conspiracy in Martinico. When the public tranquillity was threatened, a volunteer organization of patrole guards, which had subsisted until that period, was suddenly relinquished.

Antigua has never been seduced by bad example to restrain manumissions, but has kept its statute-book unstained by these shameful innovations. It is to the legislature of Antigua that the further honourable distinction belongs, of having attempted to secure its slaves from transportation.

A great proportion of the members are resident proprietors, a consequence of the more early and general decline of the island in its sugar plantations. They continued to keep wide open the door of legal enfranchisement to foreign as well as native slaves; and the happy result has been, that in ten years the free black and coloured population of the island has been nearly doubled.

This year they amounted to 2185; in 1821 they had advanced to 3895.

It is well worthy of remark, that the cases of Antigua and the Bahamas prove the important truth, that the prevalence of individual manumissions tends to meliorate the treatment of those who remain in slavery; and thus, as Mr. Stephen expresses it, "by a twofold process of benignity, to wear out, in the safest and happiest way, the institution itself." This happy distinction is chiefly to be ascribed, in the Bahamas, to their failure as a sugar colony, and consequent disuse of the destructive system of driving.

Through the exertions of the Honourable William Wylly, the King's advocate and attorney-general for the Bahama islands, an oppressed and unprotected woman of colour was rescued from slavery at New Providence. The facts of the case were as follows:—

Catharine Richardson, a female Negro, of twenty years of age, born of free parents on Staten Island in New York, was apprenticed to a Mr. Gerard Smith, in Beaver Street, New York, where she lived five years, and was afterwards apprenticed to Charles Johnston of New York, a master mariner, with whom she lived about eighteen months, when she was debauched, and brought clandestinely by him, in a vessel under his command, called the Augusta, from New York to Nassau, where he left her with Mrs. E. Yellowly, his sister, in exchange for a Negro man-slave named Dublin. Mrs.

Evening Mail, August 29th, 1812.
Stephens on West Indian Slavery, pp. 416. 418.
African Institution, 6th Report, p. 9.

Yellowly treated her with great severity, told her she was her slave, and had her whipped twice at the common jail.

Catharine Richardson made an affidavit of the foregoing facts, and the attorney-general, in consequence, got a counsel appointed to prosecute a suit *in formâ pauperis*, to try her right or claim to freedom, which issued in her liberation.

Upon the 13th of June, a motion was made in the House of Commons to introduce the British colonial laws into Trinidad, in place of the Spanish ones, the continuance of which had been guaranteed to the inhabitants, upon its capture and subsequent cession. The question was negatived without a division; one of the members said, "When we talked of English law, we talked of it by reference to English judges, to English juries, and to English feeling and principles. It was a mockery to talk of transplanting the English law to the West Indies, when only the name was carried thither, and all the true English feeling was left behind. That the law of England served only as the engine of fraud and oppression, rendered doubly disgraceful, because carried on under the pretence of law and justice. This was, under the pretence of justice to the whites, to load the other miserable wretches with oppression unbounded." Mr. Stephen also spoke upon this subject with his wonted feeling and his wonted ability. "What was proposed," he said, "was, that the house should accede to the wishes of 517 white inhabitants, in opposition to the wishes of a population of 22,000." "It was to be observed, that the persons on whose account the present propositions were made were careful to provide that, so far as

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1811, pp. 199. 201.

Upon the 14th of May, the British parliament passed an act to render the act for the abolition of the slave trade more effectual. It declares "all persons residing in his Majesty's dominions, who shall be any way engaged in the slave trade, to be felons, and liable to transportation for a term not exceeding fourteen years, or confined and kept to hard labour for a term not exceeding five years nor less than three.

"That all persons serving on board any ship so employed, or underwriting any policy thereon, are declared guilty of a misdemeanor only, and liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years. Such persons are not to be punished as accessaries to felony.

"The act does not extend to persons removing slaves from one British settlement to another, or to prevent the transportation of slaves condemned to such *punishment* by due course of law.

"All the offences to be tried according to the ordinary course of law, and the provisions of an act passed in the 28th year of the reign of Henry VIII., intituled 'An act for pirates,' or according to one passed in the 33d year of the same reign, intituled 'An act to proceed by commission of oyer and terminer against such persons as shall confess treason and felony, without remanding the same to be tried in the shire where the offence was committed,' or according to the provisions of an act passed in the eleventh and twelfth years of the reign of King William III., intituled 'An act passed for the more effectual suppression of piracy.'

"7. The act not to repeal former acts in respect of forfeitures.

"8. Governors and commanders-in-chief, and persons authorized by them, may seize vessels and other forfeitures.

"By the 9th section it is enacted, that persons sailing in such vessels giving information of offences committed, are not to be liable to punishment."

African Institution, 5th Report, Appendix. — p. 52.

property was concerned, the Spanish laws were still to prevail. Highly as these gentlemen valued the beauty of the English constitution, and much as they wished it to be introduced into the island of Trinidad, they seem to agree that those blessings would be too dearly purchased at the expence of their being compelled to pay their debts."

Mr. Canning also opposed an application, the motives for which were as palpable as they were unworthy. "When it was stated," he said, "that the inhabitants of Trinidad were earnestly desirous of the whole British constitution, but that they would be content with a part, and would also willingly relinquish their claim of an assembly, provided they were permitted to have a council, he could not perceive with what part of the British constitution they were enamoured. When they declared their wishes for a council, consisting of persons nominated and removable by the crown, it appeared to him that their only object was to prevent the legislature at home from exercising any controul over, or interference with, their proceedings. This was evidently the express purpose they had in contemplation, and on this express ground he would resist the application, for he wished to see at least one colony dependent on the legislation of the empire. It seemed to have been the design of the British government to make a new experiment in Trinidad, and to inquire, previous to the happy abolition of the slave trade, into the practicability of preserving it free from that pollution, in order to furnish the means of a practical examination of the advantages of the plan. The colony was, therefore, an exception to all the principles on which the constitution of the other islands was founded." "He felt in the highest degree averse to add Trinidad to the number of those islands where the introduction of every plan for ameliorating the condition of the slaves was uniformly opposed."

The temper of the Europeans and Creoles was evinced at Barbadoes. The free people of colour in that island petitioned that they might be admitted as witnesses in courts of law, stating, that in consequence of their present disability, their houses were sometimes entered by white ruffians, who violated the women with impunity, but none of the inmates were qualified to give evidence against them. This petition the house of assembly rejected.

At Barbadoes, in consequence of the scarcity of provisions, a bounty was granted on the importation of yams, potatoes, and plantains. The long drought generated swarms of worms, which "spread devastation over the face of the island."

The Negro congregation belonging to the church of the United Brethren at Sharon, Barbadoes, in November, consisted of seventy-four men and boys, 147 women and girls, of whom three were free.

Edinburgh Annual Register, 1811, p. 199.
Evening Mail, October 29th.
Official Papers presented to House of Commons, 1815.

The number of slaves returned into the treasurer's office, Barbadoes, was 69,132; Whites, 13,794; free people of colour, 2613: total of inhabitants, 87,539.

Baptisms.—Whites, male, 258; Female, 216; Free people of colour, males, 86; female, 114.

Upon the 19th of February, the return of the population of Dominica, taken in conformity to an act of the legislature, was, slaves, 21,728; Whites, 1525; free persons of colour, 2988.

The free population in Cuba, by official returns made to the Cortes, and dated 20th July, 1811, amounted to 388,000, of whom 114,000 were Negroes or coloured persons. The slaves were no more in number than 212,000.

In October, a vessel arrived at St. Jago de Cuba, with near 300 persons who escaped the slaughter of their fellow citizens at Tarragona.

The number of slaves in Jamaica was reported to be 326,830.

The assembly of Jamaica, in their petition to the Regent, state, that "estate after estate has passed into the hands of mortgagees and creditors, absent from the island, until there are large districts, whole parishes, in which there is not a single proprietor of a sugar plantation resident."

The population of the Virgin Islands was estimated at 11,000, about 1300 of whom were Whites.

The population of the island of Trinidad, according to an official return made on the 31st of December, was estimated at 2617 Whites, 7043 free people of colour, 1716 Indians, and 21,143 Negroes.

There were 174,823 acres of land cultivated, including the land granted.

Fifty thousand pounds sterling were granted by parliament for the relief of the inhabitants who had suffered by the fire in 1809.

The exports from England to St. Domingo were estimated at £1,200,000 sterling.

1812.

Fifty thousand pounds were granted by parliament to the sufferers at Trinidad by the fire in 1809, and to rebuild the public edifices.

Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves,—Appendix.
Evening Mail, February 24th, 1812.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 467.
Coke's West Indies, vol. iii. p. 108.
Colquhoun's British Empire, pp. 364, 365.
African Institution, 2d Report. Appendix.

His Majesty's sloop Guachapin, of twelve guns, Lieutenant M. Jenkins, was driven on shore at Antigua, in a heavy gale, and bilged: crew saved.

The Grouper schooner, Lieut. ———, was lost off Guadaloupe: crew saved.

Steele's Navy List.

Description of the Eruption of the Souffrier Mountain, on Thursday night the 30*th of April,* 1812, *in the Island of St. Vincent.*

" The Souffrier mountain, the most northerly of the lofty chain running through the centre of this island, and the highest of the whole, as computed by the most accurate survey that has yet been taken, had for some time past indicated much disquietude; and from the extraordinary frequency and violence of earthquakes, which are calculated to have exceeded 200 within the last year, portended some great movement or eruption. The apprehension, however, was not so immediate as to restrain curiosity, or to prevent frequent visits to the crater, which of late had been more numerous than at any former period, even up to Sunday last the 26th of April; when some gentlemen ascended it, and remained there for some time. Nothing unusual was then remarked, or any external difference observed, except rather a stronger emission of smoke from the interstices of the conical hill at the bottom of the crater. To those who have not visited this romantic and wonderful spot, a slight description, as it lately stood, is previously necessary and indispensable to form any conception of it, and to the better understanding the account which follows; for no one living can expect to see it again in the perfection and beauty in which it was on Sunday the 26th instant. About 2000 feet from the level of the sea (calculating from conjecture), on the south side of the mountain, and rather more than two-thirds of its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between 400 or 500 feet in depth. Exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl rose a conical hill about 260 or 300 feet in height, and about 200 in diameter, richly covered and variegated with shrubs, brushwood, and vines above half-way up, and for the remainder powdered over with virgin sulphur to the top. From the fissures in the cone and interstices of the rocks, a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight bluish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens and aromatic shrubs, flowers, and many Alpine plants. On the north and south sides of the base of the cone were two pieces of water, one perfectly pure and tasteless, the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alum. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the singularly melodious notes of a bird, an inhabitant of those upper solitudes, and altogether unknown to the other parts of the island; hence principally called or supposed to be, invisible; though it certainly has been seen, and is a species of the merle. A century had now elapsed since the last convulsion of the mountain, or since any other elements had disturbed the serenity of this wilderness, than those which are common to the tropical tempest. It apparently

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Evening Mail, June 30th, 1812.

slumbered in primeval solitude and tranquillity, and from the luxuriant vegetation and growth of the forest which covered its sides from the base nearly to the summit, seemed to discountenance the fact, and falsify the records of the ancient volcano. Such was the majestic, peaceful Souffrier of April the 27th; but we trod on 'ignes suppositos cineri doloso,' and our imaginary safety was soon to be confounded by the sudden danger of devastation. Just as the plantation bells rang twelve at noon, on Monday the 27th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed all around it. The resurrection of this fiery furnace was proclaimed in a moment by a vast column of thick, black, ropy smoke, like that of an immense glass-house, bursting forth at once, and mounting to the sky, showering down sand, with gritty calcined particles of earth and favilla mixed, on all below. This driven before the wind towards Wallibou and Morne Ronde, darkened the air like a cataract of rain, and covered the ridges, woods, and cane-pieces with light grey-coloured ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered by dust. As the eruption increased, this continual shower expanded, destroying every appearance of vegetation. At night a very considerable degree of ignition was observed on the lips of the crater; but it is not asserted that there was as yet any visible ascension of flame. The same awful scene presented itself on Tuesday; the fall of favilla and calcined pebbles still increasing, and the compact pitchy column from the crater rising perpendicularly to an immense height, with a noise at intervals like the muttering of distant thunder. On Wednesday the 29th, all these menacing symptoms of horror and combustion still gathered more thick and terrific for miles around the dismal and half-obscured mountain. The prodigious column shot up with quicker motion, dilating as it rose like a balloon. The sun appeared in total eclipse, and shed a meridian twilight over us, that aggravated the wintry gloom of the scene now completely powdered over with falling particles. It was evident that the crisis was as yet to come, that the burning fluid was struggling for a vent, and labouring to throw off the superincumbent strata and obstructions, which suppressed the ignivomous torrent. At night it was manifest that it had greatly disengaged itself from its burthen, by the appearance of fire flashing now and then, flaking above the mouth of the crater.

"On Thursday, the memorable 30th of April, the reflection of the rising sun on this majestic body of curling vapour was sublime beyond imagination, any comparison of the glaciers of the Andes or Cordilleras with it can but feebly convey an idea of the fleecy whiteness and brilliancy of this awful column of intermingled and wreathed smoke and clouds; it afterwards assumed a more sulphu-

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Evening Mail, June 30th, 1812.

reous cast, like what we call thunder-clouds; and in the course of the day a ferruginous and sanguine appearance, with much livelier action in the ascent, a more extensive dilation, as if almost freed from every obstruction. After noon the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder still nearer and nearer, with a vibration that affected the feelings and hearing; as yet there was no convulsive motion or sensible earthquake. Terror and consternation now seized all beholders. The Caribs, settled at Morne Ronde at the foot of the Souffrier, abandoned their houses with their live stock and every thing they possessed, and fled precipitately towards the town. The Negroes became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and, as it shook, trembled with the dread of what they could neither understand or describe; the birds fell to the ground, overpowered with the showers of favilla, unable to keep themselves on the wing; the cattle were starving for want of food, as not a blade of grass or a leaf was now to be found; the sea was much discoloured, but in no wise uncommonly agitated, and it is remarkable that throughout the whole of the violent disturbance of the earth it continued quite passive, and did not at any time sympathise with the agitation of the land. About four o'clock P. M. the noise become more alarming, and just before sun-set the clouds reflected a bright copper colour, suffused with fire. Scarcely had the day closed when the flame burst at length pyramidically from the crater through the mass of smoke; the rolling of the thunder became more awful and deafening; electric flashes quickly succeeded, attended with loud claps, and now indeed the hurly burly began. Those only who have witnessed such a sight can form any idea of the magnificence and variety of the lightning and electric flashes; some forked zig-zag playing across the perpendicular column from the crater, others shooting upwards from the mouth like rockets of the most dazzling lustre, others like shells with their trailing fuses flying in different parabolas, with the most vivid scintillations from the dark sanguine column which now seemed inflexible and immoveable by the wind. Shortly after seven P. M. the mighty cauldron was seen to simmer, and the ebullition of lava to break out on the N. W. side. This, immediately after boiling over the orifice and flowing a short way, was opposed by the acclivity of a higher point of land, over which it was impelled by the immense tide of liquified fire, that drove it on forming the figure V in grand illumination. Sometimes when the ebullition slackened, or was insufficient to urge it over the obstructing hill, it recoiled back, like a refluent billow from the rock, and then again rushed forward impelled by fresh supplies, and scaling every obstacle, carrying rocks and woods together in its course down the slope of the mountain, until it precipitated itself down some vast ravine concealed from our sight by the intervening ridges of Morne Ronde.

Evening Mail, June 30th, 1812.

Vast globular bodies of fire were seen projected from the fiery furnace, and bursting, fell back into it, or over it, on the surrounding bushes which were instantly set in flames. About four hours from the lava boiling over the crater, it reached the sea, as we could observe from the reflection of the fire and the electric flashes attending it. About half past one, another stream of lava was seen descending to the eastward towards Rabacca. The thundering noise of the mountain, and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable, hitherto, now mingled in the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava, became so terrible that dismay was almost turned into despair. At this time the first earthquake was felt; this was followed by showers of cinders, that fell with the hissing noise of hail during two hours. At three o'clock, a rolling on the roofs of the houses indicated a fall of stones, which soon thickened, and at length descended in a rain of intermingled fire that threatened at once the fate of Pompeii and Herculaneum. The crackling and coruscations from the crater at this period exceeded all that had yet passed. The eyes were struck with momentary blindness, and the ears stunned with the glomeration of sounds. People sought shelter in cellars, under rocks, or any where, for every where was nearly the same, and the miserable Negroes, flying from their huts, were knocked down or wounded, and many killed, in the open air. Several houses were set on fire. The estates situated in the immediate vicinity seemed doomed to destruction. Had the stones that fell been proportionally heavy to the size, not a living creature could have escaped without death, these having undergone a thorough fusion; they were divested of their natural gravity, and fell almost as light as pumex, though in some places as large as a man's head. This dreadful rain of stones and fire lasted upwards of an hour, and was again succeeded by cinders from three till six o'clock in the morning; earthquake followed earthquake almost momentarily, or rather the whole of this part of the island was in a state of continued oscillation; not agitated by shocks vertical or horizontal, but undulated like water shaken in a bowl. The break of day, if such it could be called, was truly terrific. Darkness was only visible at eight o'clock, and the birth of May dawned like the day of judgment; a chaotic gloom enveloped the mountain, and an impenetrable haze hung over the sea, with black sluggish clouds of a sulphureous cast. The whole island was covered with favilla, cinders, scoria, and broken masses of volcanic matter. It was not until the afternoon the muttering noise of the mountain sunk gradually into a solemn yet suspicious silence." Such were the particulars of this sublime and tremendous scene, which has betrayed the writer into the language of bombast; it is however given to the reader with all its faults, as the authority may be supposed to be good.

Evening Mail, June 30th, 1812.

The mountain continued to be agitated up to the 7th. The rivers Rabacca and Wallibou were dried up by the eruption, which had formed a promontory, that jutted out some distance from the main land at Morne Ronde.

Upon Sunday night the 28th of June, the lake which had been formed near the source of the Wallibou river, in consequence of its channel having been blocked up by the lava, burst its barriers, and completely inundated the adjacent valley; the water carried away several Negro houses, killed several people, and scalded several others. This lake of boiling water covered four acres of ground before it overflowed its barriers.

Only six Negroes and one white man are stated to have been killed.

The damage done was confined to about twelve estates which were covered about ten inches deep with lava. The rest of the island was expected to be the better for the light covering of sand and ashes which had fallen upon it.

The legislature of Barbadoes voted the sum of 6400 dollars to be invested in the purchase of provisions for the supply of the inhabitants of St. Vincent's.

The explosions were heard at Nevis, " full as loud as those of heavy cannon," and the atmosphere there was entirely darkened with ashes at the distance of 300 miles.

At Barbadoes, the commander of the forces mistook the noise for the roaring of cannon, and supposed an enemy had landed: the military were called out in consequence.

At Grenada and Tobago, the same mistake occurred as at Barbadoes.

About the middle of May, the Diamond Rock, off Martinico, threw up vast quantities of the same kind of calcined earths which issued in such abundance from the Souffrier at St. Vincent's.

The following extracts are made from the proclamation issued by Christophe, upon his setting out at the head of his army, to attack Port-au-Prince.

" I have now risen from my lethargy; my slumber was similar to that of the lion; I am resolved to march against Port-au-Crimes (Port-au-Prince), and reduce those rebels to subjection. I have too long restrained the ardour of my brave soldiers, but in so doing, did I not afford ample time to those rebels to see into their errors? I should stand culpable to my people, to my army, and to myself, were I longer to delay in reducing to obedience those districts yet disgraced by the spirit of rebellion.

" General officers, subalterns, and soldiers, brave and intrepid conquerors wherever your foes have shewn themselves, interior or exterior, you who have so often beheld at your approach the flight

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Evening Mail, June 9th, 23d, 26th, 27th, 30th; July 13th; September 23d, 1812.

of those hostile bands blinded by the spirit of rebellion, you are still the men whom I have led to victory, you shall again shew yourselves worthy of its favours. This is the moment to conquer an internal peace, and thereby fulfil a part of your glorious toils; there will then remain but one great family whose only duty will be to stand ready to repulse any foe who should make an attempt upon its existence; there cannot exist any balancing power in Hayti, the same protective laws must pervade the whole territory."

Christophe was obliged to raise the siege of Port-au-Prince; 2000 men with General Magny deserted from him, and 3000 more were destroyed by sickness and the sword. Upon the 29th of June, Petion's forces marched for St. Mark's and the Mirabilai, which places had declared for him. Christophe retired to the mountains.

Sir James Yeo, in his Majesty's ship Southampton, of thirty-two guns, captured the Amethyst, of forty-four guns, with a crew of 400 men, and having 300 troops on board belonging to Christophe, and going against Petion. "The Southampton on coming within hail demanded to what nation she belonged, but getting no satisfactory answer, fired a shot over her, which was immediately returned, and a sharp action instantly commenced, which lasted for two hours, when the enemy, not having a mast standing, struck her colours." Her commander, a Frenchman, was killed. Captain Yeo had twelve men killed and wounded, the Amethyst had 350 killed and wounded, mostly Blacks. The survivors were landed at St. Domingo.

"Mrs. Whiston, of the island of Martinico, was possessed of a female Negro slave, called Sally, and John George Whiston her son. In 1799, Mrs. Whiston manumitted Sally and her son, and all her future issue. This manumission was recorded in the registrar's office, in the island of St. Christopher. The son remained at Martinico until 1804, when he came to St. Vincent's, and entered into the service of a merchant there as a clerk for two years, at a monthly salary, as a freeman upon his own account. In 1809, he applied to the captain of a London merchantman, to take him as his steward. The captain, having examined the record of his manumission, and satisfied himself that the young man was free, articled him for three years, and brought him to England, where he resided for two years, and then returned to Martinico, and thence to St. Vincent's, in the month of February, 1812. In this island he was claimed as a slave whilst residing there at liberty, on behalf of the representatives of Mrs. Whiston, his former owner, and was arrested and lodged in gaol, from whence Mr. Kean procured his release by a writ of habeas corpus. The question of his freedom was tried in the island of St. Vincent in the month of June, 1812, and to deprive him of that privilege, a deed was produced to shew

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Evening Mail, August 20th, September 12th, 1812.
Steele's Navy List. African Institution, 7th Report, p. 18.

that Mrs. Whiston had only a life estate in his mother previously to the young man's birth; from whence it was argued, that Mrs. Whiston had no right to manumit either the mother or the boy. This argument was adopted by the court, which decided against the young man's right to freedom. Mr. Kean prevailed, however, on the court, to reserve the question on the point of law, upon his pledging himself to the payment of £100 sterling in satisfaction of the claim, and for the exoneration of the young man from slavery, provided the verdict and judgment should not be reversed within a twelvemonth by further proceedings.

"This young man had enjoyed the privileges of a free man for thirteen years."

On June the 1st, Major-General P. Bonham was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the settlement of Surinam; and, upon the same day, Colonel G. R. Ainslie was appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Dominica.

Several privateers-men established themselves upon the island of Nevassa, and by means of a flag-staff communicated with their vessels.

In August "General Miranda delivered up the fort of La Guayra, the town of Caraccas, and the provinces of Cumana and Barcelona, to the Spanish general Monteverde, who promised to bury in oblivion every thing militating against the Spanish government, and granting the liberty of emigration from Venezuela." Notwithstanding this treaty, General Miranda was made a prisoner, thrown into a dungeon at Puerto Cabello, and afterwards sent to Puerto Rico, and from thence to the prison of La Cartace, in Cadiz, where he died.

Some new attempts were made at Margarita in fishing for pearls.

In August, Mr. Wiggins, a missionary at Jamaica, was sent to prison for a month, for preaching twice in the chapel upon a Sunday; "and the magistrates appeared determined that missionaries should not preach in any part of the island."

Dr. Buchanan says, "The spirit of opposition to the instruction of the slaves in Jamaica still continues, notwithstanding the repeated interference of his Majesty's government; and christianity has been publicly dishonoured in a part of the British empire."

"Kingston, Jamaica, November the 14th.—On Wednesday morning, at twenty minutes past two o'clock, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt in this city and neighbourhood, and at ten minutes before six three alarming and tremendous concussions immediately succeeded each other, accompanied by a most dreadful rumbling

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Evening Mail, June 6th; December 29th.
Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America, p. 62.
Humboldt's Personal Narrative, vol. ii. p. 283.
Buchanan on Colonial Ecclesiastical Establishment, 2d edit. p. 87.
Globe, January 12th, 1813.

noise and crash, and continuing for upwards of thirty seconds. The shock was felt throughout the whole island, and many houses and plantations suffered severely."

Upon the 14th of October, 500 houses were almost destroyed in the city of Trinidad, in Cuba, by a hurricane; many of the vessels which were at anchor in the harbour of Casilda were driven on shore, and others sunk. The convent of the Pope, and the hospitals Francisco de Paula and Santa Anna, were all injured.

Upon the 23d of November, the Townsend packet, Captain Cock, was captured to windward of Barbadoes, by two American privateers. The Tom of ten twelve and nine-pounders, and one long eighteen-pounder on a swivel, and 130 men; and the Bona, of six nine-pounders, and one long eighteen-pounder, and ninety men. The action lasted two hours and a half. The master of the packet was killed, and ten men and three passengers wounded. The Americans found their prize so much disabled, that after taking every thing valuable out of her, they gave her up to Captain Cock, who returned in her to Barbadoes.

Upon the 24th of November, Captain Lumby, of his Majesty's ship Narcissus, sent the boats of that ship, under the command of Lieutenant Cririe, in chase of an American privateer, off Nevaza. After a chase of three hours, with the loss of one man killed, and one wounded, they captured the Joseph and Mary, of four guns and seventy-three men. The Americans had three men wounded, and surrendered at the moment the boats were preparing to board her.

General Harcourt, the governor of Santa Cruz, died upon the 19th of December.

At the different schools in Santa Cruz, belonging to the church of England, there were 158 children.

The Methodist society in Barbadoes was composed of thirty persons, eleven of whom were Whites, thirteen were free persons, and six were slaves.

Male Missionaries in the Service of the Missions of the United Brethren, end of 1812.

	Males.	Females.
In Danish islands, St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. Jan.	17	35
Antigua	7	14
St. Kitts	3	6
Jamaica	3	6
Surinam	12	17

Globe, January 13th, 14th; February 5th, 15th, 18th, 1813.
Official Papers presented to House of Commons, 1815.
Buchanan on Colonian Ecclesiastical Establishment, 2d edit. 1813.

1813.

Upon the 9th of January, the Prince Regent declared war against the United States of America. The declaration is a very able and most satisfactory document.

In January, Ann Higgings, a free woman of Jamaica, by a "homine replegiando" (see 1807 and 1809), obtained the liberation of her three children from the state of slavery in which they had been unjustly kept by a Mr. Rutherford for several years. Had there been a registry in Jamaica, the question which was the subject of three trials, and six years of contention, could never have arisen.

The assembly at Jamaica passed a bill[1], extending the privileges

London Gazette, January 12th, 1813.
Stephens' Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, p. 50.
Courier, February 10th, 1814.

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[1] *Abstract of an Act passed in the Assembly of Jamaica, "To repeal several Acts, and the Clause of an Act of this Island, respecting Persons of Free Condition, and for granting to such Persons certain Privileges."*

"Repeals in toto Stat. 21 Geo. 2. c. 7., 2 Geo. 3. c. 8., and 25 Geo. 3. c. 17. cl. 1.

"2. And be it enacted, &c. that from and after the passing of this act, all and every persons or person of free condition, born in this island, or manumitted, pursuant to the laws thereof, and who have been baptized, and instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, shall and lawfully may be admitted and received to give evidence on any trial or suit of any value or kind whatsoever, or on the hearing of any complaint instituted or exhibited in any of the courts of law or equity in this island, or before any magistrate or coroner.

"3. Provided always, that no such person shall be competent to be admitted or received to give evidence under and by virtue of this act, unless such person shall have been baptized six months at the least previous to the time of such person being produced to give evidence, and unless such person shall at such time produce a certificate of his or her baptism, and which certificate shall have been produced to, and the production thereof attested by the custos, or some magistrate, and one of the churchwardens of the parish wherein such person shall reside; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

"4. Provided also, that no Negro or Mulatto, who shall be made free, shall be admitted to give evidence by virtue of this law, unless he or she has been manumitted or made free by the space of twelve months previous to the committing of the offence or existence of the fact respecting which he or she shall be produced to give his or her evidence.

"5. Enacts, that all free persons are to record, in a book to be kept at the vestries of the several parishes, the certificate of their baptism and of their manumission, or prove, to the satisfaction of the justices or vestry of such parish, their right to freedom, or to lose all benefit of this act.

"6. Enacts, that certificates of such records are to be furnished by the clerk of the vestry, when required, at 1*s.* 6*d.* expence, and that such certificates are to be good proof of freedom for the purpose of any person being admitted as a witness.

"7. Enacts, that free persons of colour, commiting perjury, are to be punishable according to the laws against perjury.

"8. Relates to the recovery of penalties against clerks of the vestry exacting more than 1*s.* 6*d.* for a certificate.

"9. And be it, &c. that it shall and may be lawful to navigate all droggers, vessels, or boats plying round this island for hire by Negroes, Mulattoes, or by any other description of persons, whether free or slaves, notwithstanding any thing to the contrary in any other act of this island at any time heretofore made: Provided nevertheless, that the master of such drogger shall be a native subject of free condition."—*African Institution*, 9th Report, Appendix.

of the free people of colour. The preamble of the bill "precludes them for ever from holding civil or military rank, or in any shape to interfere with the legislation of the island." This measure was occasioned by a petition presented to the house of assembly, and signed by 3000 persons of that class.

The white inhabitants of Kingston petitioned the assembly to throw out the bill; failing in this, they petitioned the privy council of the island to protect them from the measures of their representatives, by refusing their assent to it. This petition had as little effect as the first. Till this bill passed, persons of colour were incapacitated from giving testimony against a white person, either in civil or criminal matters.

The number of slaves in Jamaica were reported to be 317,424.

Blank books having been sent from England to Trinidad, to contain the registry of the slaves, in December, the original registration was completed, and 25,717 slaves were returned on oath, with their names and descriptions, as owned and resident in Trinidad; being an increase of more than 5000 since 1810, though all legal importation ceased upon the 1st of January, 1808. And from official information transmitted to his Majesty's government, it appeared, that the decrease of numbers by the excess of deaths beyond births had in a year or years prior to 1805 amounted to the enormous rate of fourteen per cent. per annum.

On January the 30th, Lieutenant General Frederick Maitland was appointed lieutenant-governor of Dominica.

The island of Dominica suffered considerably from two hurricanes which succeeded each other within a short time; several houses were blown down. To add to the calamities of the inhabitants, upwards of 500 runaway Negroes made nightly incursions from the mountains, and, by acts of rebellion, threatened the destruction of the colony.

On February the 27th, Major General Sir C. Shipley, Knight, was appointed his Majesty's governor of the island of Grenada; and Major General George William Ramsey, governor of Santa Cruz.

Copy of the Fourth Section of the separate Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Sweden, dated the 3d of March, 1813.

"The King of Sweden engages to forbid and prohibit at the period of the cession (of the island of Guadaloupe by Great Britain to Sweden) the introduction of slaves from Africa into the said island, and the other possessions in the West Indies of his Swedish Majesty, and not to permit Swedish subjects to engage in the slave trade; an engagement which his Swedish Majesty is the more

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Stephens' Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves. Appendix.
Reasons for establishing a Registry for Slaves, 1815, pp. 27, 28.
Globe, February 1st; March 1st, 1813.
Colquhoun's British Empire, p. 361.
African Institution, 7th Report. Appendix.

willing to contract, as this traffic has never been authorized by him."

Upon the 20th of September, at Providence Grove, St. John's, Jamaica, a free black woman, named Sarah Anderson, died at the extraordinary age of 140 years.

Major-General Edward Barnes was appointed lieutenant-general of the Leeward Islands, on the 15th of December, in the room of Richard Hawkshaw Losack, Esq. deceased.

Captain Greville's Description of Barbuda.

" The Woolwich, a forty-four with two decks, commanded by Captain T. B. Sulivan, was ordered, in July, 1813, to proceed to Barbadoes, to take the flag of Sir F. Laforey, when, upon the night of the 11th of September, 1813, she was totally wrecked in a furious hurricane, upon the north end of the small island of Barbuda; the crew were fortunately all taken from the wreck the next morning, and landed upon the beach, where they remained for about a week, employed in saving the few stores, &c. that were not under water. At the end of that time the officers and crew removed to the settlement, if it may be so termed, situated at the other end of the island.

" The extent of Barbuda may be about ten miles long and seven broad. On the north side there is an entrance into a large lagoon of six or seven miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile in breadth. On the southern bank of this lagoon is situated the small settlement, consisting of one white man and 300 or 400 black slaves. The island is a grant from the crown to the family of Codrington; and from the sale of its stock and the profits derived from the many lamentable wrecks, is supposed to yield to the present owner an income of £7000 per annum. The white inhabitant at the time I visited the island was a Mr. James, the respectable attorney for Sir Christopher Codrington. He had then been resident about ten years in the island, and, with the exception of an occasional trip to the neighbouring island of Antigua, lived entirely secluded from the world. From the very superficial view I was then in the habit of taking of any place, I am unable to say how many acres were under cultivation, but it strikes me they must have been few, and confined entirely to raising a sufficiency for the maintenance of the slaves, and providing food for the stock. Almost the whole of the island was covered with wood; and the stock that run wild in it was reckoned to amount to, horned cattle, 3000; sheep, 40,000; horses, 400; deer, perhaps, 100 or 150. Rides were cut in the woods; and Mr. James, who kept a great many wretchedly broke

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Courier, December 20th, 1813; January 7th, 1814.
MS. Captain Greville, R N.

horses in his stable, some Porto Rico bloodhounds, and two very expert huntsmen, was in the constant habit of mounting his horse at day-break, and, thus accompanied, repairing to the woods to hunt the wild bull, or deer, if such should chance to fall in his way.

" This was sport, as you may naturally suppose, sailors had no particular objection to; and no first-rate sportsman in Leicestershire ever went to meet the hounds, at a favourite cover, with more animated spirits than I mounted my rough vicious pyeball to accompany Mr. James in his daily diversion; and it would have puzzled the best huntsman in England to have displayed more judgment, skill, and dexterity, in selecting and separating a young but full-grown bull from a large herd, than my two black friends did. As soon as this was accomplished, the bull generally made, at a furious rate, for the thickest parts of the wood, followed by myself and motley companions. The huntsmen carried long ropes before them, and whenever they could get sufficiently near to the bull, they skilfully threw them over the animal's horns, and not unfrequently seized the creature by the tail, and by a sudden peculiar jerk, succeeded in turning the bull over. Its hind legs were in a moment secured with ropes, and in about one minute more the creature rose from the ground under a *new* name, and the huntsmen and sportsmen were flying with their utmost speed from the enraged animal.

" At other times it was the practice of Mr. James to drive, by means of a long line of slaves, and every tenth man a gong, which he kept sounding, a vast number of sheep, into an arm of the sea. They were then enclosed in this living palisade, and the rams caught. ****** The cattle, when wanted for exportation or consumption, are caught as above described, and lashed to the horns of tame oxen, who never fail, sooner or later, to conduct them to head-quarters without any assistance.

" The settlement consisted of a large barn-like looking house, belonging to Mr. James, stables, artificers' shops of every kind, Negro huts, and an old dilapidated castle, said to have been built by the Buccaneers, who, it seems, made this island one of their places

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MS. Captain Greville, R. N.

His Majesty's ship Southampton, and brig Vixen, of fourteen guns and 130 men, were totally lost near Conception Island in the Crooked Island Passage. Crews saved.

His Majesty's ship Subtle, of ten guns, Lieutenant C. Brown, was upset off St. Bartholomew's, when in chase of an American privateer, and all the crew perished.

His Majesty's sloop Peacock, of eighteen guns, Captain William Peake, was taken, off Demerara, by the American sloop of war Hornet, of eighteen guns, after a severe action, and sunk.

His Majesty's sloop Persian, of eighteen guns, Captain Charles Bertram, was lost on the Silver Keys. Crew saved.

His Majesty's sloop Colibri, of eighteen guns, Captain J. Thompson, was lost during a violent gale in Port Royal, Jamaica. Crew saved.—*Steele's Navy List.*

of abode. This piece of antiquity had nothing particular to recommend it to notice. Two very small schooners or boats belonged to the island, and traded to and from St. John's, Antigua.

"Guinea birds were found wild in the greatest profusion, also wild ducks; and on the beach were nightly turned many turtle."

1814.

By an article in the treaty of Kiel, of the 14th of January, 1814, between His Britannic Majesty and the King of Denmark, the latter engages to co-operate with His Britannic Majesty for the completion of the beneficent work of the total abolition of the slave trade, and to prohibit all his subjects, in the most effectual manner and by the most solemn laws, from taking any share in that traffic.

Convention with Spain, between His Britannic Majesty and His Catholic Majesty Ferdinand VII. Signed at London, 5th February, 1814.

"In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity.

"His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Catholic Majesty Ferdinand VII., being equally desirous of promoting the good understanding which happily subsists beween them, and of preventing any differences which might arise respecting the disposal of vessels and goods recaptured from the enemy by either party, have judged it expedient that a convention should be entered into upon the subject; for this purpose they have named their respective plenipotentiaries; that is to say, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Britannic Majesty, Henry Earl Bathurst, Baron Bathurst and Apsley, one of his Majesty's principal secretaries of state, a member of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, and a peer of the parliament of the United Kingdom, &c. &c.; and the regency of the Spains, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Catholic Majesty Ferdinand VII., Don Carlos Jose Gutierrez de los Rios, Fernandez de Cordova, Sarmiento de Sotomayor, &c. &c., Count de Fernan Nunez and of Barajas, Marquis of Castel Moncaigo, Duke of Montellana, Arco, and Aremberg, Prince of Barbanzon and of the holy Roman empire, &c. &c. &c., grandee of Spain of the first class, K. G. C. of the royal and distinguished order of Charles III., gentleman of the chamber in actual service, colonel of the regiment of cavalry bearing His Catholic Majesty's name, and his ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to

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African Institution, 9th Report, p. 31.
State Papers, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 309.

His Britannic Majesty; who having duly communicated to each other their respective full powers drawn up in due form, have agreed upon the following articles: —

" It is agreed that any ships or goods belonging to either of the contracting parties which shall have been taken by the enemy, and shall be afterwards retaken by any ship or vessel belonging to either of the contracting powers, shall reciprocally, in all cases, save as hereafter excepted, be restored to the former owners or proprietors, on payment of salvage of one-eighth part of the true value thereof, if retaken by any ship of war, and of one-sixth part, if retaken by any privateer or other ship or vessel; and in case such ships and goods shall have been retaken by the joint operations of one or more ships of war, and one or more private ship or ships, then on payment also of the last-mentioned salvage of one-sixth part. But if such ship or vessel, so retaken, shall appear to have been, after the taking by the enemy, set forth as a ship or vessel of war, the said ship or vessel shall not be restored to the former owners or proprietors, but shall, in all cases, whether retaken by any ship of war, or by any privateer or other vessel, be adjudged lawful prize for the benefit of the captors.

" The present convention shall be ratified by the two high contracting parties, and the ratifications exchanged in London in six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

" In witness whereof we the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed, in virtue of our respective full powers, the present convention, and have affixed thereto the seals of our arms.

" Done at London, the 5th day of February, 1814.

" BATHURST."

" By his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty. A Proclamation, declaring the Cessation of Arms, as well by sea as land, agreed upon between his Majesty and His most Christian Majesty, and enjoining the observance thereof.

" GEORGE P. R.

" Whereas a convention for the suspension of hostilities between his Majesty and the kingdom of France was signed at Paris, on the 23d day of April last, by the plenipotentiary of his Majesty, and the plenipotentiary of his Royal Highness, brother of the most Christian King, lieutenant-general of the kingdom of France: And whereas, for the putting an end to the calamities of war, as soon and as far as may be possible, it hath been agreed between his Majesty and His most Christian Majesty as follows; that is to say, that as soon as the convention shall be signed and ratified, friendship should be established between his Majesty and the kingdom of France by sea and land, in all parts of the world; and

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Courier, May 17th, 1814. From Gazette.

in order to prevent all causes of complaint and dispute which might arise with respect to prizes that might be made at sea after the signature of the said convention, it has also been reciprocally agreed, that the vessels and effects which might be taken in the English channel and in the North Seas, after the space of twelve days, to be reckoned from the exchange of the ratifications of the said convention, should be restored on both sides; that the term should be one month within the British channel and North Seas to the Canary Islands and to the equator; and five months in every other part of the world, without any exception or other particular distinction of time or place: And whereas the ratifications of the said convention were exchanged by the respective plenipotentiaries above mentioned on the third day of this instant May, from which day the several terms above mentioned of twelve days, of one month and five months, are to be computed: Now in order that the several epochs fixed as aforesaid between his Majesty and His most Christian Majesty should be generally known and observed, we have thought fit, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, and by and with the advice of his Majesty's privy council, to notify the same to his Majesty's loving subjects; and we do hereby, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, strictly charge and command all his Majesty's officers, both at sea and land, and all other his Majesty's subjects whatsoever, that they forbear all acts of hostility, either by sea or land, against the kingdom of France, her allies, her vassals or subjects, under the penalty of incurring his Majesty's highest displeasure.

"Given at the court at Carlton House, the 6th day of May, in the fifty-fourth year of his Majesty's reign, and in the year of our Lord 1814. GOD SAVE THE KING."

Upon the 27th of May, the British parliament passed an act to allow ships taken and condemned for being used in carrying on the slave trade to be registered as British-built ships, "and to enjoy all the privileges and advantages of British-built vessels."

Upon the 30th of May, the treaty of peace between France and Great Britain was signed at Paris. For France, by M. Charles Maurice Talleyrand Perigord, Prince of Benevent (ut supra); and for Great Britain, by the Right Hon. Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, &c.; George Gordon, Earl of Aberdeen, &c.; William Shaw Cathcart, Viscount Cathcart, &c.; and the Hon. Charles William Stewart, K. B., &c.

The following are those articles in the treaty which relate to the West Indies:

"Art. 8. His Britannic Majesty, stipulating for himself and his allies, engages to restore to His most Christian Majesty, within periods afterwards to be fixed, the colonies, fisheries, factories, and

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African Institution, 8th Report.—Appendix
Courier, 6th June, 1814.

establishments of every kind which France possessed on the 1st of January, 1792, in the seas or on the continents of America, Africa, and Asia, with the exception, nevertheless, of the islands of Tobago, St. Lucia, and the Isle of France and its dependencies, namely, Rodrique and the Sechelles, all which His most Christian Majesty cedes in full property and sovereignty to His Britannic Majesty, as also that part of San Domingue ceded to France by the peace of Basle, and which His most Christian Majesty retrocedes to His Catholic Majesty in full property and sovereignty.

" 9. His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, in consequence of arrangements entered into with his allies, and for the execution of the preceding article, consents that the island of Guadaloupe be restored to His most Christian Majesty, and cedes all the rights which he might have to that island.

" 10. His most Faithful Majesty, in consequence of arrangements entered into with his allies, engages to restore to His most Christian Majesty, within a period hereafter fixed, French Guyana, such as it was on the 1st of January, 1792.

" The effect of the above stipulation being to revive the dispute existing at that period as to limits, it is agreed that the said dispute should be terminated by an amicable arrangement, under the mediation of His Britannic Majesty.

" 11. The fortresses and forts existing in the colonies to be restored to His most Christian Majesty, in virtue of articles 8, 9, and 10, shall be given up in the state in which they shall be at the time of the signature of the present treaty.

" 14. The colonies, factories, and establishments to be restored to His most Christian Majesty, by His Britannic Majesty or his allies, shall be given up, viz. those in the seas of the north, or in the seas and on the continents of America and Africa, within three months, and those beyond the Cape of Good Hope, within six months after the ratification of the present treaty.

" 31. All archives, charts, plans, and documents whatsoever belonging to the countries ceded and connected with their administration, shall be faithfully restored at the same time with the countries; or, if that be impracticable, within a period not more than six months after the surrender of the said countries. This stipulation is applicable to archives, charts, and plans, which may have been carried off in countries for the moment occupied by the different armies.

" 33. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged within a fortnight, or sooner, if practicable."

Among " the articles additional to the treaty with Great Britain," the first relates to the slave trade.

" Art. 1. His most Christian Majesty, participating without reserve in all the sentiments of His Britannic Majesty relative to a

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Courier, 6th June, 1814.

species of commerce which is equally repugnant to the principles of natural justice, and the lights of the times in which we live, engages to unite, at a future congress, all his efforts to those of His Britannic Majesty, in order to cause all the powers of Christendom to proclaim the abolition of the slave trade, in such manner that the said trade may cease universally, as it shall cease definitively, and in all events, on the part of France, within a period of five years, and that besides, pending the duration of this period, no trader in slaves shall be at liberty to import or sell them elsewhere but in the colonies of the state to which he belongs."

The King of the Netherlands' Decree, abolishing the Slave Trade.

" We William, by the grace of God, Prince of Orange Nassau, sovereign prince of the United Netherlands, &c. &c. &c., having heard the report of our secretary of state for foreign affairs relative to the contents of a note received by him from the ambassador of Great Britain, bearing date the 7th instant, and requesting to obtain our prompt and effectual assistance in the measures which Great Britain has already adopted for herself, and earnestly recommended to other European powers, with regard to the slave trade; and being desirous to embrace every opportunity of affording to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Great Britain proofs of our amicable sentiments and of our readiness to contribute as much as possible to the attainment of his views, have decreed and do decree:—

" Art. 1. Henceforward no ships or vessels destined to carry Negroes from the coast of Africa, or from any islands belonging to that quarter of the globe, to the continent or to the islands of America, shall be cleared out or expedited from any of the harbours or roads within the territory of the United Netherlands; the financial department being specially ordered to take such precautions that our intentions in this respect be complied with, and that no ship or vessel be cleared out, which, from its equipment or from other circumstances, may lead to a supposition of its being destined to the aforesaid purpose, or of being in any way connected with the trade.

" 2. It shall be signified to the general government of the coast of Guinea, that in none of the forts, offices, or possessions within the limits of that command, any ships or vessels destined or equipped for the slave trade shall be admitted; and also that no inhabitants of that country, or any other persons in the vicinity of those forts or offices, shall be sold or exported as slaves; and to such ships or vessels, in case they navigate under foreign colours, notice shall be given of the existing prohibition, and they shall forthwith be ordered to put back to sea; whilst such vessels belonging to the inhabitants of the Netherlands shall be seized, and a report thereof made to the commercial and colonial department.

African Institution, 9th Report. Appendix.

"3. Copies of this present decree shall be sent to the financial and to the commercial and colonial departments, that they may respectively attend to the execution of the same, and also to our secretary of state for foreign affairs, who is ordered to communicate the contents of these presents,

"1st, To the ambassador of Great Britain, in answer to his aforesaid note, adding that, at the eventual negociations relative to the restitution of the Dutch colonies, we shall not be averse to having inserted in the treaty such an article as shall continue to bind the government of this state to the perpetual observance of the aforesaid measures, and to the effectual prohibition of the slave trade.

"2nd, To the boards of trade, for the information of the trading parts of the inhabitants.

"Given at the Hague, the 15th of June, in the year 1814, and of our reign the first. "WILLIAM.

"By order of his Royal Highness,

"The Secretary of State, (signed) A. R. FALCK."

Upon the 30th of June, the House of Lords ordered, nem. dis., "That an humble address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that while we have learnt with great satisfaction the successful exertions of his Royal Highness in obtaining the consent of the government of Sweden, and still more that of Holland, to an immediate and unqualified abolition of the slave trade, we are bound in duty to express the deep regret which this house has felt that the endeavours which, in answer to the humble address of this house on the 5th of May, his Royal Highness was graciously pleased to assure this house should be made in the late negociations at Paris for procuring the immediate and total abolition of the African slave trade, have failed of success; and to reiterate to his Royal Highness our earnest and anxious entreaties that new proposals may be made without delay to the French government for the accomplishment of that important object; and that, at the approaching congress, the whole weight and influence of this court may be employed to obtain, with the general consent of the great powers of Europe, such a declaration as may effectually and finally proscribe so inhuman a traffic throughout the civilized world."

The Regent returned a very gracious answer.

Upon the 27th of June, 1814, the British House of Commons resolved, nem. con., "That an humble address be presented to his Royal Highness, that while we learn with great satisfaction the successful exertions of his Royal Highness in obtaining the consent of the government of Sweden, and still more that of Holland, to an immediate and unqualified abolition of the slave trade, we are bound in duty to express the deep regret of this house, that the late unanimous address of this house, praying his Royal Highness to interpose

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African Institution, 9th Report, pp. 4. 10.

his good offices to obtain a convention of the powers of Europe for the immediate and universal abolition of the African slave trade, to which address his Royal Highness was pleased to return so gracious an answer, has failed to produce those consequences which this house and the country had most anxiously anticipated: That the objects, to the attainment of which that address was directed, do, in the opinion of this house, so deeply affect the best interests of Europe, and the happiness and civilization of Africa, as to render it our imperious duty again to press them on the attention of his Royal Highness: That although the government of France, whether from the effect of partial or colonial interests, or from not being sufficiently aware of the enormities attendant on the slave trade, have not agreed to a stipulation for the immediate abolition of it, yet that the consent of that government to abolish the trade in five years, and to unite its efforts with those of His Britannic Majesty at the approaching congress to induce all the powers of Christendom to decree its abolition, so that it shall cease universally at that time; together with the disposition the French government is supposed to have manifested to subject their own slave trade to some restrictions during the intervening period; above all, that government's distinct and unequivocal recognition of the radical injustice of the traffic in slaves, induce the house to entertain a confident hope that further stipulations, with a view to the abolition or limitation of the slave trade, may be obtained at the approaching congress: That independently of the unspeakable evils to Africa which must arise from the permission of this nefarious traffic on the most extended scale for a further term of five years, and of the increased inducements for carrying it on which will then exist, it is obvious that new and formidable obstacles to the execution of our laws against the slave trade must be created, that occasions of difference with those powers will be multiplied, and the evils and miseries produced in Africa from the multitudes of human beings, obtained by fraud or by violence, being forcibly dragged into perpetual slavery in a foreign land, must be most lamentable and extensive; but they will be particularly afflicting to those parts with which his Majesty's dominions have of late had the greatest intercourse, because the restoration of the French settlements and their dependencies, with the right of an unrestricted slave trade, must subject those populous and extensive districts where, by the laudable exertions of Great Britain, peaceful industry and social happiness have been in some measure produced, to a renewal of the miseries inseparable from this odious traffic; and the colony of Sierra Leone, also, whence European knowledge, the blessings of order and the arts of peace, have begun to diffuse themselves through the neighbouring country, will be deprived of its beneficial influence, and even be exposed to imminent danger and ruin: That with a direct view to the considerations and points

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African Institution, 9th Report, p. 7.

above stated, this house humbly but most earnestly implores his Royal Highness to obtain, if possible, from the government of France some diminution of the term permitted to the slave trade, but in any case, its restriction at least within certain limits, and its total exclusion from the parts of Africa where the exertions of Great Britain have already succeeded in suppressing the trade, that the inhabitants of those regions may be left to the enjoyment of that exemption from its ravages which they have so recently and so happily obtained: That this house feels most deeply anxious that no exertions should be omitted in the approaching congress to procure a final and universal extinction of the slave trade, because it conceives that no opportunity can ever again be expected to occur so favourable for effacing from the character of Europe its most opprobrious stain, or for delivering the unoffending but much injured inhabitants of Africa from the heaviest of all possible calamities, from intestine war, excited too often by the basest avarice and the fiercest passions, raging without intermission, and productive only of unmixed evil and of invincible and interminable barbarism, and from practices which, having been exposed to the public eye, have induced the legislature to class the slave traders with the vilest of criminals: That to produce a universal condemnation of this murderous system, displayed as its horrors now are to mankind, it appears to be only necessary to appeal to those feelings which must exist in every mind capable of reflection, and not steeled against the claims of humanity and justice: That as this system insults and outrages those sacred and fundamental principles which are common to every sect and denomination of Christians, it cannot be doubted that every Christian state is required to take part in its condemnation, those who have participated in its guilt being bound to abandon and reprobate it, while none who enjoy the privilege of innocence are thereby either deprived of the right or exempted from the obligation of joining in the sentence: That this house, therefore, again expressing its profound regret that more has not been accomplished in this great work, and convinced that, by the endeavours of his Royal Highness, exerted with renewed energy, much may still be effected in the appointed congress, humbly but earnestly intreats his Royal Highness that the most strenuous exertions be there made, on the part of this country, to obtain, as far as may be possible, the objects which have been specified; and that all proper means may be used for urging on the assembled powers the duty, the expediency, and the lasting glory of promulgating to all the world, as the judgment of the states of Europe, a general and solemn engagement, under the most binding and effectual sanctions, that this traffic, the foul and formidable enemy of the happiness and civilization of Africa, will, at a definite and fixed period, certainly not more distant than five years, be abolished utterly and for ever."

African Institution, 9th Report, p. 8.

The Prince Regent was pleased to answer, "That the House of Commons might rely on his unremitting exertions to give effect to their wishes."

In the beginning of August, the Duke of Wellington was directed to solicit a particular audience of the French King, for the purpose of presenting to him a letter from the Prince Regent, wherein his Royal Highness states to His most Christian Majesty, that his long residence in this country having enabled him to appreciate the sentiments of the British nation on the subject of the slave trade, the British ambassador at Paris would lay before his Majesty the successive and solemn appeals made to his Royal Highness by both Houses of Parliament, and the assurances he had given them of his unremitting endeavours to deliver Africa from the long train of sufferings inseparable from this inhuman traffic. His Royal Highness observes, that he well knew his Majesty's benevolent heart recoiled from the continuance of a trade, however long rooted in the system of the world, which checked all prospect of civilization and improvement in one entire continent; and he entreats the King to employ his powerful endeavours to accelerate the moment of its universal extinction. The letter concludes with the following emphatic paragraph: "Anxious in all matters to concert my measures with your Majesty for the common peace and happiness of mankind, I own it would afford me the highest of all possible gratifications, were we enabled together to efface this painful and disgusting stain, not only from the practice of our own, but of all the other states with whom we are in friendly relations."

To this letter the King of France returned a very favourable answer, in which he says that he is disposed to adopt all the measures calculated to ensure the repose and happiness of the human race, and particularly to agree to the extinction of a traffic that tends to the destruction of mankind. His Majesty adds, that being agreed with his Royal Highness upon the principle, he should not delay the final and absolute abolition of the slave trade, as far as France is concerned, further than might appear necessary to prevent any ill effects from the precipitation of the measure. During this delay, his Majesty engages that the trade shall be subjected to restrictions and discouragements, not only in the French colonies, but on that part of the coast of Africa where another and a better description of trade had already been substituted, and that the means then under consideration for attaining the object proposed would speedily afford to the Prince Regent a convincing proof of his Majesty's concurrence. He concludes by stating, that considering the honourable interest which the Prince Regent and the British nation take in accomplishing this noble undertaking to be the feeling of the whole human species, he shall think himself happy to be able on this occasion to give to the Prince Regent a fresh testimony of his

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African Institution, 9th Report, pp. 9. 13. 15.

unalterable friendship and perfect esteem. The Prince Regent further directed his ambassador at the court of France to offer to the French government, either a sum of money or the cession of an island in the West Indies, in order to obtain from them the immediate abolition of the slave trade, but without success.

The Duke of Wellington pressed the French government to restrict the slave trade to the south of the line, and so far succeeded as to procure an injunction to be issued by the minister of the marine, prohibiting the trade to the north of Cape Formosa; a point situated about lat. 4° north.

Treaty of Alliance with Spain, signed at Madrid, the 5th of July, 1814, *by the Right Honourable Sir H. Wellesley, &c. &c. and Don Josef Miguel de Carbajal y Vargas, Duke of San Carlos, &c. &c. &c.*

"Art. 1. There shall be in future a strict and intimate alliance between his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Catholic Majesty, their heirs and successors; and, in consequence of this intimate union, the high contracting parties shall endeavour to forward, by all possible means, their respective interests.

"His Britannic Majesty and His Catholic Majesty declare, however, that in drawing closer the ties so happily subsisting between them, their object is by no means to injure any other state.

"2. The present alliance shall in no way derogate from the treaties and alliances which the high contracting parties may have with other powers; it being understood that the said treaties are not contrary to the friendship and good understanding which it is the object of the present treaty to cement and perpetuate.

"3. It having been agreed by the treaty signed at London, on the 14th day of January, 1809, to proceed to the negociation of a treaty of commerce between Great Britain and Spain as soon as it should be practicable so to do, and the two high contracting parties, desiring mutually to protect and extend the commerce between their respective subjects, promise to proceed without delay to the formation of a definitive arrangement of commerce.

"4. In the event of the commerce of the Spanish American possessions being opened to foreign nations, His Catholic Majesty promises that Great Britain shall be admitted to trade with those possessions as the most favoured nation.

"5. The present treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged within forty days, or sooner if possible.

"In witness whereof, we the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed, in virtue of our respective full powers, the present treaty of friendship and alliance, and have sealed it with the seal of our arms.

"Done at Madrid, this fifth day of July, 1814.

"H. WELLESLEY."

African Institution, 9th Report, p. 16.
State Papers, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 311.

Three Additional Articles to the Treaty of Alliance between his Majesty, and His Catholic Majesty Ferdinand VII., signed at Madrid, the 28*th of August,* 1814.

"Art. 1. It is agreed that pending the negociation of a new treaty of commerce, Great Britain shall be admitted to trade with Spain upon the same conditions as those which existed previously to the year 1796. All the treaties of commerce which at that period subsisted between the two nations, being hereby ratified and confirmed.

"2. His Catholic Majesty, concurring in the fullest manner in the sentiments of His Britannic Majesty with respect to the injustice and inhumanity of the traffic in slaves, will take into consideration, with the deliberation which the state of his possessions in America demands, the means of acting in conformity with those sentiments. His Catholic Majesty promises moreover to prohibit his subjects from engaging in the slave trade for the purpose of supplying any islands or possessions, excepting those appertaining to Spain, and to prevent likewise, by effectual measures and regulations, the protection of the Spanish flag being given to foreigners who may engage in this traffic, whether subjects of His Britannic Majesty, or of any other state or power.

"3. His Britannic Majesty being anxious that the troubles and disturbances which unfortunately prevail in the dominions of His Catholic Majesty in America should entirely cease, and the subjects of those provinces should return to their obedience to their lawful sovereign, engages to take the most effectual measures for preventing his subjects from furnishing arms, ammunition, or any other warlike article, to the revolted in America.

"The present additional articles shall form an integral part of the treaty of friendship and alliance signed on the 5th day of July, and shall have the same force and validity as if they were inserted word for word, and shall be ratified within forty days, or sooner if possible.

"In witness whereof we the undersigned plenipotentiaries, in virtue of our full powers, have signed the present additional articles, and have sealed them with the seals of our arms.

"Done at Madrid, this 28th of August, 1814.

"H. WELLESLEY."

Upon the 9th of July, the Prince Sovereign of the Netherlands, with the consent of the States General, published an ordinance on the subject of the renewed intercourse between the United Netherlands and their old possessions in the West Indies.[1]

State Papers, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 312.
Courier, July 19th, 1814.

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[1] The ordinance sets forth, that until the arrival of the period when the Dutch colonies and possessions shall be restored, that people, in consequence of negociations entered into with the British government, may carry on trade and commerce with the

The convention between Great Britain and the United Netherlands was signed at London upon the 13th of August. The fol-

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Courier, June 10th, 1815.

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colonies of Surinam, Berbice, Demerary, Essequibo, Curaçoa, St. Eustatia, Saba, and St. Martin, on the following conditions:—

"Art. 1. All Dutch subjects, wishing to trade with the said colonies, must be provided with licences issued for that purpose by the British ambassador at the Hague.

"2. Persons wishing for such licences must certify that they are subjects of the United Netherlands, resident therein, and that the vessel destined for the said commerce is of Dutch property and build, having the captain and three-fourths of the crew Dutch seamen, or a vessel British built, and navigated according to the British laws.

"3. The tonnage duty for every such ship or vessel, clearing out otherwise than in ballast, shall be one guilder per ton, reckoning two tons to the last.

"4. In order to place this trade on the same footing as that which is carried on between Great Britain and the said colonies, the following regulations are to be observed:—

"5. All goods, wares, and merchandize, being of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United Netherlands, must pay, on clearing out to the said colonies, a duty of five guilders ten stivers for every 100 guilders value, and a duty of three guilders ten stivers when the same are of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, this last making, with the duty of two per cent. levied on their export from England, the same charge of £5 per cent. as is paid on inland goods.

"The following goods, of the above-named origin, are exempted from this duty, whether sent straight from hence to the colonies, or from England through this country; viz. cotton yarn, and other cotton manufactures, linens, refined sugar, sugar candy, treacle, provisions of all kinds, corn and flour.

"6. Certificates that the goods are of Dutch origin, drawn up in legal form by the local administration, and signed by the British consulate, must be produced to the convoy and license board.

"In respect to manufactures, all such goods will be reckoned of native origin which have undergone some operation in Holland.

"7. Of goods of British origin, and destined for the colonies, declaration shall be made immediately on their arrival in a Dutch port, and not only must the bales, packages, marks, number, and value of which declaration was made in England, be given up, but also the warehouses in which they are deposited, and from which they cannot be removed but for the purpose of being shipped for the colonies, at farthest within a period of three months. The officers of the customs may visit the warehouses from time to time to secure the identity of the goods.

"8. Goods, wares, and merchandize, not of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United Netherlands, nor of Great Britain and Ireland, shall, on export to the colonies, pay duty according to the following scale:—

	Guild.	*Stiv.*
Bottles of green or common glass, of such capacity as together will hold 100 quarts	33	0
Twined yarn, per 100 lbs.	15	10
Cotton yarn, per do.	40	0
Corn and meal, duty free.		
Hair powder, per 100 lbs.	98	0
Ditto perfumed, or perfume powders	136	0
Hats, wholly or partly made of hair, felt, wool, or beaver, per hat	17	0
Iron hoops, per 100 lbs.	12	0
Wood hoops, per 1000	7	0
Hides, cow, tanned, per lb.	0	10
Ditto, horse, tanned, per lb.	0	10
Russia hides, tanned	0	16
Candles, spermaceti and wax, per 100 lbs.	119	0
Tallow candles, per 300 lbs.	95	0
Candle wicks, per 100 lbs.	44	0
Playing cards, the gross	40	0
Linen of all sorts, sail cloth excepted, for every 100 guilders value	40	0

lowing is the substance of the articles which relate to the West Indies:—

Courier, June 10th, 1815.

	Guild.	*Stiv.*
Sail cloth, per 120 ells	54	0
Flannel, per ell	0	12
All sorts of cloth, per ell	12	15
All other stuffs, wholly or partly of wool, per ell	4	9
Provisions, duty free.		
All goods, wares, and merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the East Indies or China, actually imported from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland into the United Netherlands, duty free.		
The same goods, wares, and merchandize, not having been imported into the United Netherlands from the said United Kingdom, as follows:—		
Tea, duty free.		
Plain white calicoes, muslins, or white calicoes flowered or bordered, plain white dimities, nankeens, and all articles made of hair or cotton wool, or any mixture of the same, per value 100 guilders	5	0
East India goods, of prohibited wear in England, per value of 100 guilders	5	0
(Here a vast number of Indian cotton goods are enumerated.)		
All other goods, wares, and merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the East Indies and China, not otherwise named in this tariff, as follows:—		
Manufactured, per 100 guilders value	40	0
Unmanufactured, ditto	20	0
The following are the duties on other articles:—		
Oil of turpentine, per 100 lbs.	29	0
Ditto of vitriol, ditto	21	0
Brown or grey paper, per 100 lbs.	39	10
Printed, painted, or marble paper, together with paper hangings, per square ell	0	9
Parchment, per twelve sheets	5	0
Starch, per 100 lbs.	95	0
Calf-skins, tanned, without other preparation, per 100	40	0
Goat-skins, ditto, ditto, the 100	284	0
Fawn-skins, prepared	14	0
Lamb-skins, prepared in alum, &c. per 100	9	0
Ditto, prepared in oil, ditto	24	0
Sheep-skins, tawed, per 100	22	0
Calabrian skins, tawed, ditto	5	0
Wolf-skins, tawed, do.	5	0
French wines, per cask of fifty steakan (five gallons each)	80	0
Madeira wine, do. do.	52	0
Rhenish, German, or Hungary wine, do. do.	75	0
Cape of Good Hope wine, do. do.	17	0
Portuguese, Spanish, and all other wines not otherwise mentioned, do. do.	50	0
Soap, hard, 100 lbs.	42	0
Soft soap, do.	36	0
All other goods, wares, and merchandize, not of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain and Ireland, or of the United Netherlands, and not otherwise named in the present tariff:		
Manufactured, per value of 100 guilders	40	0
Unmanufactured, do.	20	0

All goods, wares, and merchandize, being of the growth, produce, or manufacture of France, over and above the duties imposed by this tariff on goods not derived from England or the United Netherlands, pay also an additional duty equivalent to one

" Art. 1. Great Britain agrees to restore the Dutch colonies with the exception of the Cape of Good Hope, Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice, to be disposed of in a supplementary convention.

" Art. 5. The places to be restored on the American continent to be given up within three months; those beyond the Cape of Good Hope within six from the date of the convention.

" Art. 6. No persons in the places to be restored to be questioned for their former political opinions.

" Art. 7. The natives and aliens in the countries in which a change of sovereign takes place are allowed six years for the disposal of their property, and retiring, if they think fit.

" Art. 8. The Sovereign of the Netherlands engages to prohibit all his subjects, in the most effectual manner, and by the most solemn laws, from taking any share whatsoever in that inhuman traffic the slave trade.

" The first additional article stipulates, that to provide for the defence and incorporation of the Belgic provinces with Holland, and also a compensation in virtue of the ninth article of the treaty of Paris, for the cessions made by Sweden, which Holland should furnish, Great Britain engages to defray the following charges:—

" 1. The payment of one million sterling to Sweden, in satisfaction of the claims aforesaid, and in pursuance of a convention executed with his Swedish Majesty's plenipotentiary to that effect.

" 2. The advance of two millions sterling to be applied, in concert with the Prince Sovereign of the Netherlands, and in aid of an equal sum to be furnished by him, towards augmenting and improving the defences of the Low Countries.

" 3. To bear equally with Holland such further charges as may be agreed upon between the said high contracting parties and their allies, towards the final and satisfactory settlement of the Low Countries in union with Holland, and under the dominion of the House of Orange, not exceeding in the whole the sum of three millions,

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Courier, June 10th, 1815.

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fourth of the said duties, and all this in consequence of, and in agreement with the laws and regulations existing in Great Britain, as an effect of that equalization of duties above declared to be one of the chief conditions of this trade and commerce.

" 9. In order to distinguish the said goods, not being of British or Dutch origin, from goods derived from France, the former must be provided with certificates of origin; when brought to this country they are to be deposited under the same precautions as goods from England.

" 10. All goods not provided with certificates of origin, and destined for the colonies, shall be considered as derived from France, and shall be liable to the same duties

" 11. declares goods found to be of other origin than that declared liable to confiscation.

" 12. orders the restoration of the tariff of 1725, on produce imported from the colonies.

" 13. Sugars brought to this country from the colonies, and thence to other countries, shall pay the following duties:

	Guild.	*Stiv.*
Clayed sugars, per 100 lbs.	5	15
Raw or muscavado sugar, per 100 lbs.	3	5

to be defrayed by Great Britain. In consideration of the above engagements, the Cape of Good Hope, Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice are ceded to Great Britain; but with condition that the Dutch proprietors have liberty, under certain regulations, to trade with Holland. It is also agreed, that Dutch ships may resort freely to the Cape of Good Hope, for the purposes of refreshments and repairs, without being liable to other charges than such as British subjects are required to pay."

Upon the 13th of August a convention between Great Britain and Sweden was signed at London, by which the King of Sweden agrees to accept twenty-four millions of livres in satisfaction of his claim for the island of Guadaloupe, which His Britannic Majesty agrees to pay.

In the Royal Almanack for Hayti for the year 1814, after the calendar, is the following sketch of the situation of that kingdom.

" The principles of feudal government are unknown in Hayti; but hereditary titles of nobility, and the royal and military order of St. Henry, are the recompenses destined for those who dedicate their life to the public service, or who shed their blood for their King and country. A grand council of state, and a privy council, composed of the grand dignitaries, and the other officers of the kingdom, deliberate upon such subjects as the King submits to them. The affairs of state are conducted by four ministers, that is to say, one for war and the marine, one for the finances, one for foreign affairs, and one for justice. There is also a secretary of state. The picked men of the army, equipped with the greatest care, form the royal guard. The army itself is well inured to war, and well disciplined; its battalions are always complete; the officers are of proved valour and experience, and the military profession is the most honoured of all in Hayti. The ambition of parents is to get their children admitted. The legislation consists of a code of laws, simple, clear, precise, and adapted to the manners, the customs, and the character of the people. An agricultural code, a proof of the King's solicitude, of which no other nation has given an example, regulates the reciprocal duties of the landlords, the tenants, and the labourers, the police of the plantations, the nature and the preparations of the different productions of the soil, in fact, all the rural œconomy of Hayti. The principles of this code are founded upon justice, equity, and humanity; the labourers have been restored to the rank of freemen; industry is encouraged as the mother of virtue, and idleness is repressed by the laws as the source of vice; in fact, the odious traces of the old system are for ever effaced from the soil of Hayti. The government does every thing in its power to encourage agriculture, as the grand basis of prosperity; but several manufactories have been also established, which give the greatest

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De l'Interet de la France à l'egard de la Traité des Negres, par J. C. L. Simonde de Sismondi, 1814, p. 91.

hopes of success. The government gives the greatest attention to morals: marriage is honoured, protected, and encouraged. No Haytian can occupy any distinguished place if he is not married. Divorce is no longer permitted. The Catholic religion has regained its splendour. Its hierarchy consists in an archbishop, three bishops, and a parson in each of the fifty-four parishes. Great encouragements are offered to foreigners that are merchants and established at Hayti. The King is always ready to assist them with his capital, and several of them have already received important assistance from him. In fact, this government is, perhaps, the only one that at this moment, in consequence of the exact order introduced into its finances, is not only not in debt, but, on the contrary, is creditor to an immense amount.

"A royal military school is established at Cape Henry; the professors are paid by government; they teach reading, grammar, geography, history, military tactics, mathematics, the art of drawing charts, fortifications, &c., and the pupils are accustomed to all the different kinds of exercises. In each city, in every village in the kingdom, there is a school established, where they teach the French and Latin languages, geography, history, mathematics, drawing, and the polite arts. The King gives to each, land for the school; he rewards the most zealous masters, and he distributes annual prizes to the most distinguished scholars.[1]"

At St. Domingo, Christophe's army attacked the advanced camp of Petion, consisting of 200 men, all of whom were put to the sword, with the exception of the colonel, who had holes bored through his nose and ears, and was tied on a plank and carried in that situation to Cape François!

On the 3d of May, a congress was held at Gonaives, at which Henry I. (Christophe), King of Hayti, Petion, president of the west, and Borgella, commander-in-chief of the south, proposed an alliance offensive and defensive, and to fix the limits of their respective states. They could not agree upon the limits.

The conferences were broken off on the 8th.

The armies of King Henry and Petion met on the 17th, on the road to Gonaives. King Henry and Petion commanded in person. The right of King Henry's army was commanded by Marshal Romain, the centre by Marshal Toussaint Brave, and the left by Lieutenant General Gabarre. General Mouchelle commanded the cavalry.

De l'Interet de la France à l'egard de la Traité des Negres, par J. C. L. Simonde de Sismondi, 1814, p. 90.
Courier, May 26th, August 2d, 1814.

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[1] The royal arms of Hayti, prefixed to the edicts, &c. of Christophe, are, a crown with two lions rampant gardant for supporters; motto, "God, my cause, and my sword;" in the centre, a Phœnix encircled with the following words: "I rise again from my ashes." *Courier*, Oct. 4th.

The three divisions of Petion's army were commanded by Marshal Vernet, General Bazelet, and Ferdinand Deslandes. The battle was sanguinary, and victory declared decidedly for King Henry. Petion lost the greater part of his troops and generals. Had not Marshal Romain been stopped by Rigaud, the army of Petion would have been destroyed. The latter retreated to Artibonite, and turned the bridge of the Esther, to stop the pursuit of King Henry; who, after detaching his son, the prince royal, with the whole of his cavalry, to oppose the movements of some insurgents under Marshal Besse, in the cantons of Valliere and Gomez, pursued Petion.

Extract of a Dispatch from the Minister, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Hayti.

" The Count de Lemonade, Minister, Secretary of State and for Foreign Affairs, to Mr. Peltier, London.

" Palace of Sans Souci, June 10th, 1814, 11th year of Independence.

" Sir,

" Your dispatches of the 21st of March, 5th of April last, and their duplicates, reached me by the English brig Vigilant, Captain Flannagan, which entered the port of Cape Henry on the 10th of May, and by the Bedford, Captain Stuckfield, and the Smolensk, Captain Jowsey, which entered yesterday, bringing me your Ambigus, gazettes, and other papers, &c.

" I have laid these dispatches before the King, who heard them read with all the attention which they merit.

" The details which you give us of the great events that have taken place in Europe, and particularly in France, have afforded the King much satisfaction. The King, who had attentively observed the train of events which took place after the retreat of Napoleon from Moscow, and successively those of Germany, had concluded, that Napoleon, without the entire support of the French people, by a levy en masse, could never make head against his numerous enemies, who were so much the more formidable, because they were instructed by experience; because they had long-standing quarrels to revenge; because the safety and honour of thrones were at stake; because they felt the necessity of uniting to form a mass of active force which nothing could withstand. His Majesty, calculating the immense losses sustained by the French, and the new sacrifices which it would have been necessary to make, foresaw that if Napoleon was not seconded by the people, he would inevitably sink. His Majesty thought besides, that if Napoleon fell, he would not fail to bury himself under the ruins; but his Majesty could never have divined that he would have closed his career in a manner so little worthy of a soldier. His Majesty's prognostics have been

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Courier, September 24th, 1814.

partly verified in the subjugation of the implacable enemy of the world; but the repose of the world will never be secure while Napoleon lives.

"In the return to philanthropic principles which the governments of Europe appear desirous of adopting, his Majesty perceives new means of security to his kingdom. His Majesty, however, since the expulsion of the satellites of Napoleon from the soil of Hayti, has never ceased preparing himself for war, and for the most obstinate resistance in the event of an invasion of his kingdom. His preparations have been still further augmented by the complete organization of his troops, the provisioning of his fortresses, and other means of defence which have been recently taken since the first overtures for peace between Napoleon and England through the mediation of Austria, which we learned here from the newspapers; and especially in consequence of the various notices and valuable information which you have given us, and which have enabled his Majesty to take all suitable measures. If, on the one hand, the policy of his Majesty has led him to measures of prudence required by his safety, he has not, on the other, neglected to cause cultivation to flourish, as you will be convinced by the enormous quantity of colonial produce which issues from the ports of his kingdom.

"You must have seen, from various acts of his Majesty's government since his accession to the throne, that his Majesty has never confounded the French people with the governments which oppressed them. To peaceable merchants he has always offered security, protection, and commerce, at the same time that he was determined to repel every kind of enemy who should attempt to reduce us to slavery. You may declare, Sir, as you are now authorized to do, that his Majesty will, with pleasure, receive the vessels of French merchants which shall be legally cleared out for the ports of Hayti, provided they punctually conform to the laws of the kingdom. You may give this assurance to the French merchants, and even publish it in your journals.

"A new order of things arises; his Majesty embraces the consoling hope of finding a just and philanthropic government, which, convinced that force is powerless to reduce us to subjection, will not forget among our claims, that of having combated its most implacable enemy, from the commencement of his reign to his fall, and never having listened to any of those proposals which his agents from all countries have made us. His Majesty flatters himself, that he will find humane sentiments in a sovereign instructed by misfortune. In our state of uncertainty as to the measures of the new sovereign of France with regard to us, we cannot take any direct course or step, as you invited us, until we are positively informed as to his intentions. It is for you, Sir, who, with unbounded attach-

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Courier, September 24th, 1814.

ment and fidelity, have constantly defended the interests of the too long unfortunate monarch whom you serve, it is for you, who are much attached to the cause of King Henry, and who possess information respecting this country, to prepare the channels by which the two powers may come to an understanding for their mutual interest and the benefit of their respective subjects. When this is done, you need not doubt that his Majesty will listen to such just and reasonable proposals as may be made to him, and will hasten to appoint an accredited representative to stipulate for his interests and those of his kingdom.

(Signed) "DE LIMONADE."

The French government sent M. Dauxion Lavaysse as commissioner to Hayti. From Jamaica he addressed the following ferocious letter to King Henry:—

Letter of General Dauxion Lavaysse to General Henry Christophe, Supreme Head of the Government of the North of Hayti.

"GENERAL, "Kingston, October 1st, 1814.

"You have been informed of the important mission with which I have been entrusted to your excellency; and on arriving here, it was my intention to address you and General Petion simultaneously; for I am not come, as you well know, as a messenger of discord, but as the precursor of peace and reconciliation. A few days after my arrival here, I, as well as my companion on the voyage, Mr. Draveman, paid the usual tribute to the climate, and I have here found only one man, in whom I could place confidence, to aid me with his pen as secretary.

"However, I have communicated with some estimable persons, who, I am assured, possess your confidence, and who have confirmed what fame had already taught me of you.

"But before communicating directly with your excellency, it becomes my duty to obtain the most accurate information with regard to you, and as to every thing which it is of importance for my mission to learn; and I confess with pleasure, to your excellency, that all that I now know has added greatly to my hopes, and encouraged me to address you with the frankness of a soldier, and with that interest which cannot be refused to those who have followed the military career.

"The virtuous King, who is at last restored to France, that King equally admirable for the firmness and mildness of his character, for the extent of his intelligence, and his contempt of every illiberal prejudice, Louis XVIII., lamented more than any one the atrocious measures adopted against General Toussaint at the peace of 1802. That chief, loyal and enlightened, had, with

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Courier, January 5th, 13th, 1815.

almost the whole of the inhabitants in Hayti, taken up arms in favour of the royal cause. He supported it several years with energy, and had re-established order and cultivation in Hayti to the most astonishing extent. But when all Europe was bent under the yoke of Buonaparte, he felt that submission to that recognized tyrant became a matter of necessity. None of the acts of General Toussaint were declaratory of independence; but Buonaparte, either to sacrifice a portion of the immense armies which embarrassed him on the peace, or to lay hold of imaginary treasures, sent an army to St. Domingo, when he ought only to have sent rewards.

"The effects of this barbarous expedition was a second destruction of the colony, and the loss of General Toussaint.

"The King would have considered this loss as irreparable had not your excellency succeeded to the power of that celebrated man: and convinced that you are perfectly well informed as to your true interests, and as to every thing that has taken place in Europe; certain that the welfare of your country, your own, and that of your family and friends, will serve as the rule of your conduct, he has not doubted that you will act towards him as Toussaint would act if now alive. I bring you, therefore, general, by the orders of that august Sovereign, words of satisfaction and peace; and though from the height of his throne, the most brilliant in Europe, he commands an army of 500,000 men, he has sent me singly to treat with you about your interests.

"We are no longer in the time of Buonaparte. All the sovereigns of Europe had leagued to pull down that usurper; all remain united in order to secure the tranquillity of all parts of the world. At this moment you may behold England punishing, at 1500 leagues distance, the United States of America who had dared to lend their support to the enemy of order and of the repose of the world. Already the capital of that new empire has been committed to the flames; already its chief is flying; for not until these United States shall profess the principles of the sovereigns of Europe, will England cease to overwhelm them with the weight of her terrible vengeance. Thus as long as there shall remain a point on the globe where order is not re-established, the allied sovereigns will not lay down their arms; they will remain united, in order to finish their great work. If you doubt this truth, general, your excellency has only to consult, by means of your agents, the dispositions of England, late the enemy of France, now her most faithful ally, and they will attest the truth of what I have now said.

"General, if Buonaparte, with a great part of the forces of France, sunk under the mass of the forces of the allies, who can now resist France united to all Europe, France become the ally of England? And who doubts that Buonaparte must have rapidly

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consummated the infernal work of destruction which he began in 1802, if in 1803 England had not declared war against France, and thus broken, by its immense fleets, the communication between France and St. Domingo?

"Every thing has been foreseen in the treaty of peace between the sovereigns of Europe. Not aware of the prudence and the principles of your excellency, it was supposed that you might hesitate as to the course which you ought to pursue; and it was agreed, that in order to replace the population of Hayti, which, in such event would be totally annihilated by the masses of force brought against it, it was necessary that France should continue, for several years, the African slave trade, with the double view of replacing the hands employed in cultivation, and forming soldiers in imitation of the English.

"It would doubtless be useless to enter into such details with a man of so superior an understanding as your excellency; but it is proper, perhaps, that those great considerations should be presented to the persons whom your excellency honours with your confidence.

"If the alliance of the powers of Europe has had for its object the restoration of order and the fall of the usurper who incessantly disturbed it, the august monarchs, who are parties to that alliance, did not on that ground display less esteem for the meritorious supporters of the glory and independence of France; for those illustrious warriors who, during twenty-five years of calamities, never deserted the post of danger, and who saved their country both from the horrors of civil war and the disgrace of dismemberment. The most wise and generous of kings, the virtuous Louis XVIII., has felt more sensibly than any of his great allies, the claims which these brave men had to the royal munificence as well as the public gratitude. They are now loaded with honours; they enjoy immense fortunes, and they bless the events which have given to their superb establishments that stability which an usurper could never have conferred.

"Follow their example, general! proclaim Louis XVIII. in Hayti, as they have proclaimed him in France, and not only honours and rewards await you, but those whom you designate shall receive marks of the satisfaction of our Sovereign, and of the gratitude of our country; and the empire of prejudices, which is destroyed with the late regime, shall prove no obstacle to these rewards being made equal to the greatness of the services performed to the King. Doubtless if Buonaparte, from the height of the French throne, addressed to you the words of which I am now the bearer, I should lament your confiding in them. His success in policy was due to his deceitful arts. His perfidy equalled the power of his arms, and General Toussaint was not the only one who found out this by cruel

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and fatal experience; but the legitimate King of France, the august successor of so many illustrious sovereigns, the descendant of St. Louis and Henry IV., has doubtless no need of the vile resorts of an usurper; his royal word is as sacred as his race is ancient and venerable; and Louis XVIII. has said, like one of his magnanimous ancestors, 'that if good faith was banished the earth, it should still be found in the heart of kings.' Thus, then, what he promises you, general, will be firm and stable; you cannot doubt it.

"But, perhaps, there are among your generals, persons who fear lest the chiefs sent by the King, forgetting the instructions which they shall have received, and permitting themselves to be influenced by Creoles and emigrants, may re-establish gradually the regime of prejudices. But believe me, general, the reign of prejudices is terminated for ever. It will as little revive in the French colonies as in France; and who can suppose that they still exist in the latter country, when, by the side of the Montmorencys, the Rohans, the Perigords, &c., are seated the Soults, the Suchets, the Dessolles, &c.; when men of such different origin, though equally illustrious, the one class for their own high exploits, and the other for those of their ancestors, sit as equals in the Chamber of Peers, and equally participate in the high dignities of the state.

"The King, who wishes that benefits be every where equally dispensed, will doubtless act, in this instance, like the monarchs of Spain and Portugal, who, by letters of white, give an individual, whatever be his colour, the privileges of a White. His royal power, which has equalized the Neys, the Soults, the Suchets, with the Montmorencys and the Rohans, by an act of munificence and equity, which all France applauded, can, in like manner, make a Negro or a Mulatto equal before the throne and the law, and in the intercourse of social life, to the fairest man in Picardy.

"You will not force us, general, to convert into soldiers the Negroes whom we are at this moment purchasing on the coast of Africa; you will not force us to employ all possible means of destruction; you will not expose yourselves to witness the desertion of your battalions, who will soon be informed that the French discipline, the most perfect in the world, does not enforce that excessive severity which you have so often exercised; we know all your means of defence.

"When I say you, I mean the persons who are under your orders, for I believe you have too sound a head, too enlightened and noble an understanding, not to be satisfied with becoming a great lord or a general officer under that ancient dynasty of the Bourbons, which Providence, in despite of all human calculations, seems to take a pleasure in perpetuating on the throne of our dear France; you will prefer becoming an illustrious servant of the great Sovereign of the French, to the fate, more than precarious, of a chief of

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revolted slaves, and, if examples are necessary to lead you to imitation, behold the generals Murat and Bernadotte, who have been, for several years, chiefs or kings of nations whom their arms have illustrated, nobly descending from the thrones to which the effects of the French revolution had raised them. Behold them, I say, nobly and voluntarily descending from these thrones, in order to become great and illustrious lords, and preferring legitimate and durable titles for themselves and their posterity, to the odious and precarious title of usurpers.

"For do not deceive yourself, general, the sovereigns of Europe, although they have made peace, have not returned the sword into the scabbard. Doubtless you are not ignorant of what every body in Europe knows, although a thing not yet diplomatically published, that the principal articles of the compact, which all the European sovereigns have just signed, on their royal honour, is to unite their armies if need be, and to lend each other all necessary aid, in order to destroy all the governments which have been the offspring of the French revolution, whether in Europe or in the New World. Know also, that it is Great Britain who is the centre of and principal party to this convention, to which, a few months sooner or later, every government will find it necessary to submit; every government and every potentate who shall refuse so to submit must expect to be treated as traitors and brigands, whilst those who voluntarily and cheerfully shall prove themselves honest and reasonable enough to adhere to these principles, in contributing to induce the people whom they govern to return under the sway of legitimate sovereigns, will obtain from these sovereigns a provision and an establishment not less honourable than permanent.

"The last consideration which I shall submit to your excellency, is that of the morality and loyalty which characterizes the present minister of the marine. It is universally known, that during the rule of the Constituent Assembly, where he constantly appeared as one of the most zealous defenders of the royal cause, he ever insisted upon the necessity as well as the justice of the ameliorating the condition, both of the Blacks and the men of colour. To pronounce the name of Malouet, is at once to recal the memory of the most exalted virtue, and of integrity the most inflexible. Whatever may be promised by such a man will be as certain and as sacred as if (and I ask pardon for the expression) the Deity had pledged himself to the engagement.

"Be pleased to accept, general, the sentiments of high consideration with which I have the honour to be, &c.

"DAUXION LAVAYSSE, General."

"P. S. Colonel Medina, who is associated to my commission, will convey this dispatch to your excellency, and will be found deserving of all your confidence.

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"As a proof of the sincere loyalty by which I am animated, I have subjoined a copy of the letter which I have addressed to General Petion. It was scarcely written when I was seized with an indisposition which deprived me of the honour of addressing your excellency at the same moment."

Copy of a Letter from General D. Lavaysse to General Petion.

"GENERAL, "Kingston, Jamaica, September 6th.

"One of the persons who enjoy the confidence of your excellency, and with whom General Hodgson had the goodness to make me acquainted at Curaçoa, has already, without doubt, apprised you of the object of my mission, as well as of the paternal and liberal intentions of our beloved monarch Louis XVIII.

"You, general, are too much distinguished, and are of too dispassionate a mind, not to appreciate, and to feel the difference which exists between the order of things fixed by the restoration of Louis XVIII., and that which is now called the ancient system, to wit, that which the despotic government of Buonaparte laboured to establish in France.

"To deceive, in order to subjugate, had become, for ten years, the great secret and the principal means employed in the policy of that hateful and perfidious usurper. Execrated by the whole world, abandoned by the companions of his military glory, the fate of this demoniac, let it be hoped, will for ever furnish a lesson to those who exercise an illegitimate and precarious power, and are at the same time in possession of their senses.

"It requires no great knowledge of public law, to enable us to perceive the difference between the constitutional form of government existing in France, from any that has prevailed in that country since the year 1789.

"The present change is not what emigrants and republicans are accustomed to call a counter-revolution. The Bourbons have been long since restored to the throne of France. The kings of Europe made not war upon the French people, nor have their armies achieved the conquest of our nation. The generous Alexander and his allies having entered France to revenge themselves on a delirious tyrant, themselves presented a rallying point to a people long oppressed under the yoke of an extravagant and sanguinary despotism.

"It is under Alexander that the wise, able, and energetic characters, who have performed the chief parts in our revolutionary history, have thought proper to enlist themselves. The Talleyrands, the Dessolles, the Duponts, the Marmonts, the Neys, the Bournonvilles, &c. &c., after labouring through twenty years of revolution, in accomplishing the work of French liberty and independence, are now the principal agents in again building up the fabric of our

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monarchy, on the basis of a free and representative constitution. This constitution it is of which Louis XVIII. has a right to be considered the author and the compiler. How powerfully, general, ought this circumstance to render the name of its author dear to every true friend of liberty. Of what happy augury ought it not to be to our brethren of the isle of Hayti. Yes, general, it is a philosophic King, a new Marcus Aurelius, a new Henry IV. who is now seated on the throne of France. Believe me, I speak not the language of flattery, I speak in the voice of truth, in the voice of my countrymen. To understand well the spirit which this day reigns in France, you have only to fix your eyes on the list of the Chamber of Peers, and the principal authorities of the state. There you will perceive, in the Montmorencys, Rohans, Perigords, Rochefoucaults, the ancient columns of the French monarchy, mixed with heroic pillars of a more modern order, the Neys, the Suchets, the Marmonts, Malouets, &c., the recent defenders of French glory and independence. You will there see all those men who by their genius, talents, valour, and virtues, have rendered themselves illustrious amidst the stormy scenes of our revolution; you will see them worthily placed between the King and people, not less the supports of the due prerogative and majesty of the crown, than of national rights and of public liberty.

"Read the constitutional charter, and the acts of the existing government, and you will there discern how, in contempt of the absurd clamours of blind and interested partizans, all which the revolution has produced of good and liberal principles, compatible with monarchial habitudes, has been religiously preserved.

"Reflect well upon these things, and say to yourself, I beseech you, general, certainly Louis XVIII. is a philosophical King, one who before and at the commencement of the revolution was one of the most zealous defenders of public liberty. The high magistrates, the commanders by whom he is surrounded, are almost all the children of that revolution, and hostile alike to ancient abuses and ancient prejudices. These men have raised themselves by the revolution to a level with the first families of France, and are elevated by the same means, and lifted up in the same storms; it is impossible that we more than they should now sink into degradation.

"Say also to yourselves, Buonaparte was a perfidious and cruel despot who scarcely employed in his policy any other agents than such as were as faithless and immoral as himself; better had it been to have battled in our last entrenchments, than to have negociated with that Corsican, who knew not what it was to respect a promise. Louis XVIII. is a legitimate sovereign, the descendant of St. Louis and of Henry IV. He employs to treat with us only men of honour, unprejudiced minds, and who have, perhaps, under another

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government, supported our cause both in their writings and discourse. They will not listen to the voice of men blinded by their errors, or soured by their misfortunes. Louis is the father and the common arbiter of all his subjects. Let us place all our confidence in this generous, patriotic, and enlightened prince; he will communicate to us the rights of French subjects and of French citizens, a gift certainly more precious than the hazard of being treated as criminal barbarians or maroon Negroes.

"Make these reflections; entertain this monologue, general; impress your own conviction on the sensible men who merit your esteem, and you will at once entitle yourself to the most honourable marks of your Sovereign's satisfaction, and of the gratitude of your country, and the Haytians whom we cannot consider other than French.

"You have too much penetration, too sound an understanding, general, you know France too well, to mistake this language for that of weakness; weakness is content to menace; the strong or the powerful strike and crush whenever they find their generosity disdained or misunderstood, &c. &c.

"DAUXION LAVAYSSE."

King Henry summoned a general council, and laid the letter before them; and Count Limonade thereafter read to the council the pamphlet of one H. Henry, printed at Jamaica, and entitled, "Considerations addressed to the Inhabitants of St. Domingo on their present State, and the Fate that may be presumed to await them."

The reading being terminated, his Majesty said, "I leave it to the wisdom of the council-general of the nation to take the measures and resolutions which it may deem necessary for the safety of our country. The result of its deliberations, provided it do not compromise our honour and the interests of the Haytian people, shall be the invariable rule of our conduct."

His Majesty then retired amidst acclamations of "Vive le Roi!" and the council unanimously voted the following address, which was carried to his Majesty the next morning.

"*Kingdom of Hayti.*

"Liberty and independence.

"Sitting of the General Council of the Nation, 21st of October, 1814, in the eleventh year of the independence of Hayti, and the fourth year of his Majesty's reign. The following Address having been read, it was unanimously agreed that the same should be presented to his Majesty.

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"*Address to the King.*

"SIRE,

"In the annals of the world no example can be found of an overture for peace, accompanied by such frightful and disgraceful circumstances as that made by the French general, Dauxion Lavaysse, in the name and as the agent of his Majesty, Louis XVIII. Nations, sovereigns, and even individuals, have certain rights which are respected even by the most barbarous people, and no one is permitted to violate them. But if men in general have agreed to respect these rights, sanctioned by custom and public decorum, how much more odious is it that the envoy of an enlightened monarch and nation has dared so openly to violate them!

"What! the most abominable tyrants, when they wished to oppress and impose on people the yoke of tyranny, employed perfidious means, and concealed their criminal enterprises by specious pretexts, because they did not dare openly to violate public rights; but the envoy of the King of the French impudently violates every right, and offers the greatest of insults to a free people, by proposing to them the alternative of slavery or death! And to whom does this vile agent dare to address this declaration of the atrocious intentions of his government? to your Majesty, the conqueror of the French, the defender of liberty and independence; to you, Sire, who have devoted your whole life to the maintenance and defence of the indestructible and eternal rights of men; to your Majesty, who have always taken, as the rule of your conduct and actions, the honour and glory of the Haytian people! He dares to propose to you to descend from a throne where you were placed by the love and gratitude of your fellow-citizens. Oh! extravagance, and insolence, and infamy! he dares to suspect your great soul of such an enormous perfidy! To whom do they dare to speak of masters and of slaves? To us — to a free and independent people, to warriors covered with noble wounds received in the field of honour, who have rooted up the ancient tree of prejudices and slavery, — to those warriors who, in a thousand combats, have made these barbarous colonists bite the dust. And now the remaining colonists, who escaped our just vengeance, dare still to speak of the re-establishment of that detested reign which we have for ever cast off! No, there shall never exist a master nor a slave in Hayti.

"Could your Majesty have expected such excessive insult from a sovereign whom fame has represented as a wise, good, and virtuous King, instructed in the school of adversity, and an enemy of illiberal prejudices? How little truth, Sire, is there in fame, when we compare events with her anticipations. The first overture for peace, the first words of conciliation which are addressed to us in the name of this prince, of whom we had formed so pleasing an idea, are outrageous insults. It is proposed to men, who have been

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free for twenty-five years, who still have arms in their hands, to lay them down in order to take up again the fetters of ignominious and barbarous slavery. In intimating to us these horrors, they veil them with the specious pretext of peace and reconciliation! They envelope the poniard of treason and perfidy in the honourable and seductive mantle of the liberal sentiments of justice and humanity of the French monarch towards us! But, on a sudden, this vile agent, this anthropophagous monster, changing his language, taking a tone and atrocious character adapted to his odious mission, threatens to destroy our race and substitute another. What justice! what liberality! what humanity!

"From this last proceeding of the French does not every thing shew, that the cause of the Haytians is distinct from that of the people? In fact to what people, to what sovereign would any one have dared to propose conditions so base and degrading? They despise us; they think us so stupid as to suppose that we want the instinct which animals possess for their preservation. What madness! what excess of audacity to dare to propose that we shall give ourselves up to the French, and submit to their odious dominion! Is it for the benefits we have received that we should again take up the chains of servitude? Is it for a sovereign who is altogether a stranger to us, who never did any thing for us, that we should change our master? Is it, in short, for the purpose of being again delivered over to tortures, and of being devoured by dogs, that we should renounce the fruits of twenty-five years of battles? What then have we now in common with that people? Have we not broken all the bonds that could unite us with them? We have changed the name, the life, the manners. We bear no resemblance to the French — these people who never cease to persecute us, and whom we abhor. Why then should we submit to the fate of being condemned to groan under their tyranny and oppression?

"Barbarians! they dare to despise us! They think us unworthy of the blessing of liberty and independence. They think that we are not capable of sublime sentiments, or of those generous impulses which form heroes, and make men masters of their own destinies; but they are deceived. Let them know something of the magnanimity, the energy, and the courage of the people whom they dare to outrage! Our will is to be free, and we shall be so in spite of tyrants.

"Oh! if our cause should be separated from that of other people; if injustice should prevail over equity in this enlightened age; if our tyrants should at length be able to triumph over us, let the glory of the Haytian people, at least, stand unequalled in the annals of nations. Yes, we solemnly pledge ourselves, that sooner than renounce liberty and independence, our entire race shall be exterminated. But before any Frenchman gains a footing

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here, let Hayti become a vast desert, let our towns, our manufactures, our dwellings become a prey to the flames. Let each of us multiply his force, redouble his energy and his courage, in immolating to our just fury thousands of those tygers who are alienated from our blood! Let Hayti present nothing but a heap of ruins! let terrified countenances meet nothing but sights of death, destruction, and vengeance! Let posterity have to say, on beholding these ruins, here lived a free, a generous people; tyrants wanted to strip them of their liberty, but they resolved to perish sooner than part with it. Posterity will applaud this act of magnanimity! Oh! will there be a human being so destitute of generosity as to refuse us his admiration, his esteem, his good wishes?

"In the political wars carried on among civilized states, the armies fight, and the people live in peace. But in a war of extermination, such as that with which we have been threatened, when every one thinks of defending his home, the tombs of his parents, his liberty, his independence, — what do I say? — his very existence, and that of his wife and children, — it is then a state of war of man against man. Women and boys are in a state of war; all are in arms. All the evil we can do our enemy is a sacred duty; all means of destruction are lawful for us to use. We shall revive those dreadful examples of exasperation among people who terrified the earth! Posterity will shudder with horror; but far from blaming us, it will only impute these acts to the perversity of the age, to tyrants and to necessity. But this will never happen, it is impossible. Hayti is invincible; and justice, as well as the cause of justice, will bear her triumphant through all obstacles. No, never shall this execrable enterprize take place. There is honour, there is glory among the sovereigns and people of Europe; and Great Britain, that liberator of the world, will prevent such an abomination."

Speech of King Henry, in answer to the Address of the Grand Council of the Haytian Nation, relative to the Letter of M. Dauxion Lavaysse, October 22*d*, 1814.

"Haytians! your sentiments, your generous resolution are worthy of us: your King shall be always worthy of you. Our indignation is at its height! let Hayti, from this moment, be only one vast camp; let us prepare to combat those tyrants who threaten us with chains, slavery, and death. Haytians! the whole world has its eyes fixed upon us, our conduct must confound our calumniators, and justify the opinion which philanthropists have formed of us. Let us rally, let us have but one and the same wish, that of exterminating our tyrants. On the unanimous co-operation of our union, of our efforts, will depend the prompt success of our cause.

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Let us exhibit to posterity a great example of courage; let us combat with glory, and be effaced from the rank of nations rather than renounce liberty and independence. A king, we know how to live and die like a king; you shall always see us at your head, sharing in your perils and dangers. Should it so happen that we cease to exist before consolidating your rights, call to mind our actions; and should our tyrants so far succeed as to endanger your liberty and independence, disinter my bones: they will still lead you to victory, and enable you to triumph over our implacable and eternal enemies."

King Henry ordered his private secretary to answer this insolent letter, article by article. The answer forms an octavo pamphlet of twenty-eight pages, full of energy and information, and does great credit to its author, who bears the title of the Chevalier de Prezeaux.

Upon the 20th of October, King Henry of Hayti (Christophe) issued a manifesto, asserting the liberty and independence of Hayti, and solemnly pledging himself and the whole of the population under his dominion, to suffer death rather than submit to the introduction and establishment of any foreign authority. The crimes, the perfidies, and the outrages of the Corsican, form the groundwork of this paper, which praises England for her indefatigable exertions for the abolition of the slave trade, and expresses a hope that the independence of Hayti will be acknowledged by Louis XVIII. At the cape there were 5000 infantry, and 1500 cavalry, with a very good park of artillery. The whole of the regular military establishment is calculated at 22,000 men, and the militia at 33,000. Fort Henry, or the citadel of Christophe, is a stupendous work. It is secured by its elevation from any sudden attack; its fortifications are constructed with great skill, and amply provided with water within. It was supplied with provisions and ammunition for 6000 men for two years.

The brown republicans, under President Petion, were equally apprehensive of an attack from France, with the Blacks and King Henry. Their government issued orders, that on the first appearance of the enemy, fire should be communicated to all the buildings in the cities, and every thing destroyed. The arsenals were filled with torches ready to be lighted; and the conduct of the Russians at Moscow held out as the example to be followed.

"Cured provisions" and ammunition were carried to the forts and strong places in the mountains.

The population of the island was estimated at 320,000 souls, of whom 60,000 men were ready to oppose an invader; all soldiers inured to fatigue and danger.

In November, Medina, one of the three commissioners sent from France, was seized by the governor of Cape Henry, and his instruc-

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Courier, Dec. 6th, Sept. 24th, 1814. Jan. 21st, 1815, Extract from a Private Letter.

tion taken from him. He was by these desired to cultivate an acquaintance with the generals and the natives, and, if possible, to occasion a revolt. He was exhibited in the church to the whole town, and to the soldiery, as a spy. Information was immediately sent by King Henry to the two other chiefs, Petion and Borgelais, in consequence of which, Dauxion Lavaysse and Daverman were thrown into confinement.

"*Republic of Hayti.*

" Liberty ; — equality.

" Decree, reducing to five per cent. the import duty on merchandize of English manufacture.

" Alexander Petion, President of Hayti, considering that the trade with Great Britain has been very advantageous to the republic, and has even aided it in the most critical circumstances in which it has been placed, and wishing to encourage the same more and more, has decreed and does decree as follows :—

" Art. 1. Reckoning from the 1st of January, 1815, merchandize manufactured in countries under the dominion of His Britannic Majesty shall be subjected to a duty of only five per cent. according to the tariff of the 22d of May, 1810, upon their import into the country.

" 2. All merchandize, other than the above described, shall continue as before to pay an import duty of ten per cent. according to the same tariff.

" The present decree shall be printed, published, and transmitted to the administrators and directors of the customs, registered whereever necessary, and put in execution by the administrator general of finance. PETION."

" By order of the President,
" B. INGINAC, Commodore and Secretary."

" Given at Port-au-Prince, October 15th, 1814,
eleventh year of independence."

" Kingston, Jamaica, July 4th, 1814.

" All the colonial planters of St. Domingo, refugees in this hospitable island, as well as the ancient military characters formerly in the service of His most Christian Majesty, have drawn up the following address to their most Christian Sovereign, his Majesty Louis XVIII.

" SIRE,

" Your faithful subjects, the inhabitants and planters of St. Domingo, driven from their properties for twenty years past, and refugees in this hospitable island, to the number of about 1500, since that time a prey to every kind of grief and sorrow, which, with the misfortunes of your Majesty and their country, filled their cup

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Courier, September 3d, 1814, January 4th, 1815.

of affliction, would have had no other wish than that of death, if the protecting benevolence of the British government had not constantly supported their courage and hopes.

"When suddenly a thousand cries, a thousand times repeated, by a voice, as if from heaven, re-echoed those consoling and redeeming sounds to France, 'Long live the Bourbons! Long live Louis XVIII. who is restored to us! Long live the offspring of Henry IV.'

"Sire, it is on our knees, our eyes overflowing with the delightful tears of joy, and stretched-out arms to your Majesty, that we, your faithful subjects saved from St. Domingo, enjoy now your happiness, as well as that which the reign of your Majesty restores to them.

"Ah, Sire! they certainly will not be the last in the heart of your Majesty, whom your Majesty will deign to succour and protect. Happy, Sire, if, as often as they have manifested it even in these most tempestuous times, they could efface with their blood the last trace of so many sufferings, as well as so much injustice, of which your Majesty and your august family have been the victims for these twenty-five years past, and which the fortitude only of the Bourbons, and their just confidence in the French nation, could enable them to support.

"Deign to receive, Sire, the assurance of our constant fidelity, of our love for your Majesty's sacred person, and the truth of our sentiments, which the remote separation from your Majesty, though great as it is cruel, will never be able to weaken."

The number of slaves in Jamaica was reported to be 315,385.

Upwards of £8000 were subscribed for the establishment of a Presbyterian place of worship in Kingston, Jamaica.

Mr. Davies, the methodist missionary, arrived at Kingston in Jamaica upon the 1st of May, "and found himself surrounded by a numerous and affectionate people, who rejoiced at the prospect of having the doors of the Lord's house once more opened for their reception, after having been shut, by a persecuting act of the assembly, nearly seven years." He presented a petition to the corporation at Kingston, which, with his documents, were ordered to be transcribed into the journals of the court; he then applied to the quarter sessions for permission to take and subscribe the usual oaths, and obtained permission so to do. The chapel was once more open for divine worship. Soon afterwards, Mr. Davies died suddenly, and the chapel was again shut up.

There were 1937 members in society in the island.

Stephen's Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves.—Appendix.
Courier, August 18th, 1814.
Missionary Register, vol. iii. p. 633. (from Mathieson's Review.)

By the law[1], as it formerly existed in Jamaica, every free person of colour was exposed to the alternative of providing one or more white persons for the militia service, in proportion to the number of slaves which he might possess, or of paying a very heavy annual fine. Another of the acts of that island imposed an absolute restraint upon devises of land, or bequests of personal property to free men of colour, whatever might be the opulence of their parents, whenever these testamentary gifts exceeded a certain small and defined amount. Both these acts were repealed by bills passed for that purpose this year.

"*Dominica.*—To his Excellency, George Robert Ainslie, Esq. Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the island of Dominica, Chancellor, Vice-Admiral, and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

"We, the planters, merchants, and inhabitants of the island of Dominica, penetrated with a just sense of the important services

African Institution, 9th Report, p. 45. and Appendix. Courier, Aug. 11th, 1814.

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[1] Abstract "of an act to enable persons of colour and Negroes of free condition, to save deficiencies for their own slaves, and for the slaves of each other."

"That it is deemed expedient that persons of colour and Negroes of free condition should be permitted to employ persons of the same class and condition on their respective properties; and that such free person so employed, as well as such free persons being proprietors, should be allowed to save deficiencies for their own body; and it is also expedient to repeal a certain clause of an act herein-after mentioned relating to free persons.

"We therefore, &c. enact, that the 4th clause of the 27th chap. of the 53d year of the reign of his present Majesty be, and the same is hereby repealed.

"2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that, notwithstanding any thing contained to the contrary in a certain act of this island, passed on the 11th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1812, intituled 'An act to oblige the several inhabitants of this island to keep a number of white persons serving in the militia, in proportion to the number of slaves they shall possess, or to pay certain sums of money in case they shall be deficient,' it shall and may be lawful for every proprietor, being a person of colour or Negro of free condition, or any other person or persons of the same free condition, holding, possessing, or employing, in any parish within this island, any slaves, or hiring any slaves by the year, to keep up, employ, and hire one or more person or persons of the same free class or condition for the several number of slaves, and according to the scale and the several proportions set forth in the 1st clause of the last above-recited act; which said free persons shall be males actually doing duty in the militia, and shall live and reside on the plantations or plantation for which they shall respectively be given, in receiving wages or hire for their services on such plantations respectively, at not less than 50*l.* per annum.

"3. And be it, &c. that in all cases wherein, by the said act, white persons, or their descendants, are allowed to save deficiencies for their own slaves, or for the slaves of any other white persons, it shall be lawful, in like manner, for persons of colour and Negroes of free condition, to have (save) deficiencies for themselves respectively, or for any other persons of colour or Negroes of free condition on whose properties they shall respectively be employed and hired as aforesaid.

"4. And be it, &c. that in all other cases not particularly mentioned by this act, all duties, obligations, and penalties, all subjects of relief, and all forms of giving in, and of affidavits relating to white persons, shall in like manner, mutatis mutandis, be deemed and considered as applicable to persons of free condition as aforesaid, of which the commissioners of public accounts, the receiver-general, all magistrates, clerks of vestries, and other persons, shall, in like manner, and under the like penalties, take due notice. Act to be in force till the 31st of December, 1816." *African Institution*, 9th Report, p. 45. and Appendix.

which your excellency has rendered generally to the inhabitants of this colony, and more particularly to the planters and owners of slaves, by your judicious and salutary measures for the suppression of a most alarming and dangerous rebellion among the Maroons, that has for a long series of years existed, and was daily increasing in number, force, and audacity, to the great terror and annoyance of the community, feel it an act of justice and a debt of gratitude due to your excellency, to bear our unqualified testimony to your meritorious and well-timed exertions on this very serious and critical occasion.

"While we highly admire and applaud the moderation and forbearance which you evinced in the first instance, in your benevolent endeavours to convince these deluded and misguided wretches of their error, and to bring them to a sense of their duty by issuing proclamation after proclamation, offering a free pardon to all such as should voluntarily surrender themselves, and return to their owners, we sincerely lament that these mild and lenient measures, instead of producing the desired and naturally expected effect on these poor infatuated people, were not only treated by them with defiance and contempt, but evidently served to heighten their boldness and insolence, and to encourage them in their atrocities and enormities, they perhaps attributing, if we may judge by their subsequent increased violence, and by the reinforcements which flocked to them, this moderation on the part of your excellency, either to the weakness or timidity of your government.

"We were particularly gratified in observing the humanity and consideration of your excellency, in only ordering the delivery to their owners of all children, immediately after they were taken, but in repeated instances granting a full and unconditional pardon to the mothers and children, although the lives of some of them were forfeited to the laws of their country, and the other subject to banishment.

"What will their most specious and partial advocate attempt to plead in defence or palliation of these desperate and daring rebels, when he is informed, that in return for your gracious offer of mercy and pardon, on condition of their contrition, and promise of future good behaviour, they barbarously murdered two men, the bearers of your excellency's commission; and that, not content with this act of savage ferocity, they had the unparalleled audacity, to offer a reward of 2000 dollars for your excellency's head! What will he say, when he is told, that they have been known to enter the town at midnight; that they have broken open and robbed private houses; that they have made violent irruptions in numerous bodies, armed with cutlasses and guns, and committing depredations and murders, both night and day, on the surrounding estates, and plundered them of all kinds of provisions and live stock; that they have

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Courier, August 11th, 1814.

even forcibly carried away slaves, and put to death those who attempted to make their escape from them; and that they have made their camp an asylum for deserters from his Majesty's troops, three of which description were lately tried by court-martial, under the orders of the commander of the forces, and sentenced one to receive 1000 lashes, and to be branded in the arm with the letter D, and the two others to be shot.

"After this short and unexaggerated recital of their crimes and enormities, the catalogue of which might be greatly enlarged, we should have felt as much disposed to censure your excellency, had you not adopted the vigorous and necessary measure you have done for the reduction of this dangerous intestine enemy, as we now are to testify our warmest approbation and perfect satisfaction at the energy and perseverance with which you have acted. We are convinced that your acts in this respect have been no less of mercy than of justice, and that many valuable lives would have been sacrificed, had your excellency exercised much longer forbearance; nor do we think it improbable that a general insurrection of the Negroes, and an indiscriminate massacre of the Whites and free people of colour, might have proved the result of such excessive lenity.

"We therefore cannot refrain from acknowledging our obligations to your excellency for the wise, and hitherto successful policy you have pursued on this pressing emergency; a policy which has rescued our lives and properties from the impending horrors and dangers which but lately threatened them.

"The examples which imperious necessity required you to make of a few notorious offenders have had the desired effect, by striking a proper terror into the minds of all those turbulent and mutinous slaves who had before betrayed a disposition to revolt, and threatened to join the Maroons. We now enjoy blessings to which we had long been strangers; security, confidence, and repose, the fruits of your excellency's vigilance and exertions; in which we are persuaded you were influenced by no other view than that of promoting the tranquillity and welfare of the colony over which you preside. It is with regret we learn your excellency's intended departure, particularly when we contemplate the possible consequences of your leaving the colony at this critical juncture; and our most earnest desire is, that your excellency could be induced to remain among us until such time as the object, so nearly brought to a termination, shall be finally accomplished. Should you, however, Sir, have reasons for deciding otherwise (an event which we shall deeply regret), accept our best wishes for your health and happiness, and for your excellency's speedy return to your government.

"H. C. C. Newman,
Rector of the Parish of St. George, Chairman."

"Roseau, June 18th, 1814."

This address was signed by 162 inhabitants.

Courier, August 11th, 1814.

Upon the 21st of June, the governor of Dominica sent the following message to the honourable board of council, and to the house of assembly:—

"The governor informs the honourable board and house, that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has signified his pleasure, through Earl Bathurst, secretary of state for the colonies, that he should return to Europe, to give some explanation relative to the operations carried on against the Maroons.

"GEORGE R. AINSLIE, Governor."

The council and the assembly replied, by expressing their sorrow for the governor's recal; their approbation of the measures which he had pursued against the Maroons, and their hopes of his speedy return.

An address to the same purpose was also sent to his excellency from the free people of colour, signed by 165 "of the most respectable" of them.

Upon the 12th of July, the camp of Jacko, one of the chiefs of the Maroons at Dominica, was surprised by a party of rangers. Jacko made a desperate resistance; he killed two rangers, wounded a third, and was shot through the head while levelling a musket at a fourth. He had resided in the woods upwards of forty years, and was considered chief of all the runaways.

"*Dominica.*—By his excellency G. R. Ainslie, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the island, Chancellor, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same.

"Whereas I judged it necessary to call together the house of assembly for the dispatch of public business of the colony, and as the majority of that house have, in times of unexampled distress, shown themselves totally negligent of the interest of their constituents; inasmuch as during the course of thirteen months only two bills have been offered for my sanction, one of which has been rejected, it is my will and pleasure that the house be dissolved, to give the country an opportunity of showing their sense of the services of their representatives; and the house is hereby dissolved accordingly.

"Given under my hand and seal-at-arms, at Roseau, the 29th day of August, 1814, and 54th year of his Majesty's reign.

(L. S.) "GEORGE R. AINSLIE, Governor.

"By his excellency's command, WM. BRUCE, Secretary."

On the 9th of October, M. the Baron de la Bothe and M. Parnel Sumay, in the Lys, seventy-four, with a frigate in company, with troops on board, arrived at Martinico to take possession of that island for the government of Louis XVIII. They arrived too soon, as the British governor had not received the orders from his government to deliver up the island.

Courier, October 10th, November 14th and 24th, 1814.

Extract from Major-General Lindsay's Dispatch to Earl Bathurst.

"Army Treasury Ship Emma, Fort Royal Bay,
Martinico, 9th December, 1814."

"The British garrison has been embarked, and the French flag hoisted this day at twelve o'clock. I have, in consequence, executed his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's order, by delivering up this island to His most Christian Majesty's commissioners."

In an action before the supreme court in the island of St. Vincent, Mr. Kean contended successfully against the principle, that a black man is to be reputed to be a slave until the contrary is proved. Mr. Kean succeeded in obtaining from the court of King's Bench, in that island, a formal decision, that this presumption against freedom, and in favour of slavery, was not warranted by law.

This judgment is considered "as an occurrence of great importance, because, so far as the authority of the court by which it was pronounced extends, it will have the effect of preventing the recurrence of those violations of all natural justice, of the frequency of which every West India newspaper furnishes sufficient evidence. Under the law, as it existed in St. Vincent's before the judgment in question, and as it exists in practice in all the other West India islands at present, 1814, a black person appearing in any one of those colonies may be immediately imprisoned, and, within a limited time, exposed to public sale as a slave, unless he is able to substantiate his freedom."

The returns from Tobago shew, that before October 27th, 1814, when a duty of £100 was first imposed on manumissions there, the numbers enfranchised had amounted to an average of thirty-two and a half per annum; in the six following years it was reduced to an average of three and a half. The tax was then taken off, and in the remaining year, or part of a year comprised in the returns to parliament, the number of manumissions are eighteen.

British Expedition in the Gulf of Mexico.—Letter to the Commandant of Barataria.

"Sir, "Head-quarters, Pensacola, August 31st.

"I have arrived in the Floridas for the purpose of annoying the only enemy Great Britain has in the world, as France and England are now friends. I call on you with your brave followers to enter the service of Great Britain, in which you shall have the rank of captain; lands will be given to you in proportion to your respective ranks, on a peace taking place; and I invite you on the following

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MS. Records in the Colonial Office, extracted for this work, by permission of Wilmot Horton, Esq., Under Secretary of State, &c. &c.
African Institution, 9th Report, p. 43.
Stephens on West Indian Slavery, p. 406.
Courier, November 22d, 1814.

terms — your property shall be guaranteed to you, and your person protected.

"In return for which I ask you to cease all hostilities against Spain, or the allies of Great Britain. Your ships and vessels to be placed under the orders of the commanding officer on this station, until the commander-in-chief's pleasure is known; but I guarantee their value to you at all events.

"I herewith inclose you a copy of my proclamation to the inhabitants of Louisiana, which will, I trust, point out to you the honourable intentions of my government. You will be a useful assistant to me in forwarding them; therefore, if you determine, lose no time. The bearer of this, Captain Williams, will satisfy you on any other points you may be anxious to learn, as well as Captain Lockyer, of the Sophie, who carries him to you. We have a powerful reinforcement on its way here, and I hope to cut out some other work for the Americans than oppressing the inhabitants of Louisiana. Be expeditious in your resolves, and rely upon the veracity of your humble servant,

"EDWARD NICHOLLS, Lieutenant-Colonel,
commanding His Britannic Majesty's forces in the Floridas."

"To M. La Fete, or the Commandant at Barrataria."

This letter is more like a soldier's than a diplomatist's.

Proclamation by Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Nicholls, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Forces in the Floridas.

"Natives of Louisiana! on you the first call is made to assist in liberating from a faithless and imbecile government your paternal soil. Spaniards, Frenchmen, Italians, and British, whether settled or residing for a time in Louisiana, on you also I call to aid me in this just cause. The American usurpation of this country must be abolished, and the lawful owners of this soil put in possession. I am at the head of a large army of Indians, well armed, disciplined, and commanded by British officers, a train of artillery with every requisite, seconded by a powerful aid of numerous British and Spanish squadrons of ships and vessels of war. Be not alarmed, inhabitants of the country, at our approach; the same good faith and disinterestedness which has distinguished the conduct of Britons in Europe accompanies them here; and you will have no fear of litigious taxes imposed on you for the purpose of carrying on unnatural and unjust war. Your property, your laws, the peace and tranquillity of your country, will be guaranteed to you by men who will suffer no infringement of theirs. Rest assured that these brave men only burn with an ardent desire of satisfaction for the wrongs they have suffered from the Americans, to join you in liberating these southern frontiers from their yoke, and drive them

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Courier, November 22d, 1814.

into those limits formerly prescribed by my Sovereign. The Indians have pledged themselves, in the most solemn manner, not to injure, in the slightest degree, persons or properties of any but enemies to their Spanish or English fathers. A flag over any door, whether Spanish, French, or British, will be a certain protection. Not even an enemy will an Indian put to death, except resisting his arms; and as for injuring helpless women and children, and old men, by their good conduct and treatment to them, they will, if it be possible, make the Americans blush for their more than inhuman conduct, lately on the Escambia, and within a neutral territory. Inhabitants of Kentucky, you have too long borne with grievous impositions; the whole brunt of the war has fallen on your brave sons. Be imposed on no more, but either range yourselves under the standard of your forefathers, or observe a strict neutrality. If you comply with either of these offers, whatever provisions you send down shall be paid for in dollars, and the safety of the persons bringing it, as well as the free navigation of the Mississippi, guaranteed to you. Men of Kentucky, let me call to your view, and I trust to your abhorrence, the conduct of those factions which hurried you into this cruel, unjust, and unnatural war, at a time when Great Britain was straining every nerve in defence of her own and the liberties of the world; when the bravest of her sons were fighting and bleeding in so sacred a cause; when she was spending millions of her treasure in endeavouring to pull down one of the most formidable and dangerous tyrants that ever disgraced the form of man; when groaning Europe was almost at her last gasp — when she alone shewed an undaunted front, basely did those assassins endeavour to stab her from (*in*) her race. She has turned on them, renovated from the bloody but successful struggle. Europe is happy and free, and she now hastens justly to avenge these unprovoked insults. Shew them that you are not collectively unjust; leave that contemptible few to shift for themselves; let these slaves of the tyrant send an embassy to Elba, and implore his aid; but let every honest upright American spurn them with merited contempt. After the experience of twenty-one years, can you any longer support these brawlers for licentiousness, who call it freedom? Be no longer their dupes; accept of my offer. Every thing I have promised in this paper I guarantee to you on the sacred honour of a British officer.

" Given under my hand, at my head-quarters, Pensacola, this 29th of August, 1814.

" EDWARD NICHOLLS."

Upon the 16th of September, the English attacked the fort at Mobile Point. The wind died away before the ships could get to their stations, so that the whole fire of the fort was directed against

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Courier, December 16th, 1814.

the Hermes and the Sophie. They silenced the fire of the fort twice, and twice shot away their flag-staff, when the Hermes grounded, and was obliged to be abandoned and destroyed. She had fifty men killed and wounded, and the Sophie twenty. With this loss the attack ceased.

The Spaniards at Pensacola invited the British to take possession of that place, to protect it against the Americans. Early in November, however, they were obliged to abandon it by the American general, Jackson, at the head of 3000 men. Upon his approach, the Seahorse frigate, with four sloops of war, left Pensacola, with the British troops.

Report of the American General.

Official. — Extract of a Letter from Major-General Jackson to Governor Early. Dated Head-quarters, seventh Military District, near Fort Mimms, November 16*th*, 1814.

" Before this reaches you, information will have been received of my visit to Pensacola. It was occasioned by the unprecedented conduct of the governor of Pensacola, in harbouring, aiding, and countenancing the British and their red allies. I entered it sword in hand, with about 3000 brave followers, in the face of the Spanish batteries and a British fleet of seven sail, anchored abreast, opposite the town. The English, by intrigue and base falsehood, induced the Spaniards to abandon the works commanding the harbour, entered and blew them up, otherwise they would have fallen a sacrifice to their own plans. When this took place, the fleet being at liberty to go out, did so; and I evacuated the town, leaving the Spaniards favourably impressed with our conduct, and disgusted with their British friends. The hostile Indians fled across the bay at our approach, and have, no doubt, lost all confidence in the assurances they have received of British protection. They have retired, it is believed, towards Apalachicola, in great alarm. The Seminolies, however, it appears from information given to Colonel Hawkins, are preparing to assume an hostile attitude. When they hear of the shameful manner in which the Red Sticks were deserted by their allies, they will wish to retract."

General Jackson, with his army, proceeded for New Orleans.

Sir Alexander Cochrane's Letter to the Admiralty.

" Sir, " Armide, off Isle-au-Chat, December 16th, 1814.

" Having arrived at the entrance off Chandeleur Islands, on the 8th instant, Captain Gordon, of the Seahorse (which ship, with the Armide and Sophie, I had sent on from off Pensacola to the

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Courier, January 3d, February 2d, 1815.
Letters on Service, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 337.

anchorage within Isle au Vaisseau), reported to me that two gun-vessels of the enemy, apparently large size sloops of very light draught of water, had fired at the Armide, upon her way down from within the chain of small islands that run parallel to the coast from Mobile towards Lac Borgne, and, having afterwards joined three others cruizing in the lake, were then visible from his mast-head. The Bayon Catalan (or Des Pecheurs) at the head of Lac Borgne, being the contemplated point of disembarkation, the distance from the inner anchorage of the frigates and troop ships to the Bayon full sixty miles, and our principal means of transport, open boats, it became impossible that any movement of the troops could take place until this formidable flotilla was either captured or destroyed.

" Rear-Admiral Malcolm joined me, with the fleet, upon the 11th instant, and upon the 12th I placed the launches, barges, and pinnaces of the squadron, with Captain Montresor, of the Manly, and Captain Roberts, of the Meteor, under the command of Captain Lockyer, of the Sophie, and sent them into Lac Borgne, in pursuit of the enemy, while the frigates, troop ships, and smaller vessels, moved into the inmost anchorage, each vessel proceeding on until she took the ground.

" After an arduous row of thirty-six hours, Captain Lockyer had the good fortune to close with the flotilla, which he attacked with such judgment and determined bravery, that notwithstanding their formidable force, their advantage of a chosen position, and their studied and deliberate preparation, he succeeded in capturing the whole of these vessels in so serviceable a state as to afford at once the most effectual aid to the expedition. For the particulars of this brilliant affair, I refer their lordships to the accompanying copy of Captain Lockyer's letter, detailing his proceedings, which I am fully aware their lordships will duly appreciate.

" Captain Lockyer's conduct on this occasion, in which he has been severely wounded, and his long and active services as a commander, justly entitling him to their lordships' protection, and finding it expedient to place this flotilla collectively upon the establishment of a thirty-six gun frigate, I have appointed him to the command thereof.

" Captain Montresor, whom I have placed in command of the gun vessels until Captain Lockyer's wounds will admit of his serving, and Captain Roberts, whom I have before had occasion to mention to their lordships, together with Lieutenants Tatnell and Roberts, of the Tonnant, and the whole of the officers mentioned by Captain Lockyer, I trust will not fail to meet their lordships' notice.

" Our loss has been severe, particularly in officers; but considering that this successful enterprize has given us the command

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Letters on Service, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 337.

of Lac Borgne, and considerably reduced our deficiency of transports, the effort has answered my fullest expectations.

" I have the honour to be,

" J. W. Croker, Esq." " ALEX. COCHRANE."

Captain Lockyer's Report to Admiral Cochrane.

" His Majesty's sloop Sophie, Cat Island Roads,
December 18th, 1814.

" SIR,

" I beg leave to inform you, that in pursuance of your orders, the boats of the squadron, which you did me the honour to place under my command, were formed into three divisions, (the first headed by myself, the second by Captain Montresor, of the Manly, and the third by Captain Roberts, of the Meteor,) and proceeded on the night of the 12th instant, from the frigates' anchorage, in quest of the enemy's flotilla.

" After a very tedious row of thirty-six hours, during which the enemy attempted to escape from us, the wind fortunately obliged him to anchor off St. Joseph's Island, and, nearing him on the morning of the 14th, I discovered his force to consist of five gun-vessels of the largest dimensions, which were moored in a line abreast, with springs on their cables, and boarding nettings triced up, evidently prepared for our reception.

" Observing also, as we approached the flotilla, an armed sloop endeavouring to join them, Captain Roberts, who volunteered to take her with part of his division, succeeded in cutting her off and capturing her without much opposition. About ten o'clock, having closed to within long gun-shot, I directed the boats to come to a grapnel, and the people to get their breakfasts, and as soon as they had finished, we again took to our oars, and pulling up to the enemy against a strong current, running at the rate of nearly three miles an hour, exposed to a heavy and determined fire of round and grape, about noon I had the satisfaction of closing with the commodore in the Seahorse's barge.

" After several minutes obstinate resistance, in which the greater part of the officers and crew of this boat were either killed or wounded, myself amongst the latter, severely, we succeeded in boarding, and being seconded by the Seahorse's first barge, commanded by Mr. White, midshipman, and aided by the boats of the Tonnant, commanded by Lieutenant Tatnell, we soon carried her, and turned her guns, with good effect, upon the remaining four. During this time Captain Montresor's division was making every possible exertion to close with the enemy, and with the assistance of the other boats, then joined by Captain Roberts, in about five minutes we had possession of the whole of the flotilla.

" I have to lament the loss of many of my brave and gallant companions who gloriously fell in this attack; but considering the

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 338.

great strength of the enemy's vessels, (whose force is underneath described,) and their state of preparation, we have by no means suffered so severely as might have been expected. I am under the greatest obligations to the officers, seamen, and marines I had the honour to command on this occasion, to whose gallantry and exertions the service is indebted for the capture of these vessels; any comments of mine would fall short of the praise due to them. I am especially indebted to Captains Montresor and Roberts, for their advice and assistance; they are entitled to more than I can say of them, and have my best thanks for the admirable style in which they pushed on with their divisions to the capture of the remainder of the enemy's flotilla. In an expedition of this kind, where so many were concerned, and so much personal exertion and bravery was displayed, I find it impossible to particularize every individual who distinguished himself, and deserves to be well spoken of; but I feel it my duty to mention those whose behaviour fell immediately under my own eye.

" Lieutenant George Pratt, second of the Seahorse, who commanded that ship's boats, and was in the same boat with me, conducted himself to that admiration which I cannot sufficiently express. In his attempt to board the enemy, he was several times severely wounded, and at last so dangerously, that I fear the service will be deprived of this gallant and promising young officer. I cannot omit to mention also the conduct of Lieutenants Tatnell and Roberts, of the Tonnant, particularly the former, who, after having his boat sunk alongside, got into another, and gallantly pushed on to the attack of the remainder of the flotilla. Lieutenant Roberts was wounded in closing with the enemy.

" I have the honour to be,

" Vice-Admiral Cochrane, &c." " Nich. Lockyer, Captain."

" Four gun boats, each armed with one long twenty-four pounder, and four twelve-pounder carronades, with a complement of forty-five men.

" One gun boat, with one long thirty-two pounder, six long sixes, two five-inch howitzers, and four swivels, and forty-five men, and a sloop, with three guns and twenty men.

" The English had seventeen killed and seventy-seven wounded."

On the 16th, Colonel Thornton, of the 85th, with the advance, were embarked. Captain Gordon, of the Seahorse, went with them, and took post upon the Isle aux Poix, a swampy spot at the mouth of the Pearl river. Next day, Major-General Keane, Sir A. Cochrane, and Rear-Admiral Codrington, joined Colonel Thornton.

On the 22d, the advance, 1600 strong, sailed at eleven, with a fair wind, to cross Lac Borgne, the gun-vessels grounded ten

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 481.

miles off the Bayon. The advance pushed on, reached the entrance of the Bayon at midnight, surprised and cut off a picquet, and at day-break, made good their landing. The Americans say, nothing but alligators and ducks had ever been there before. The creek was narrow, hid by canes, three miles from the Mississippi, one mile and a half from the high road to New Orleans, and six or eight from the city. About two, the army took post on the banks of the Mississippi, with the river on their left, a wood on their right, and the main road before them.

On the evening of the 23d, a schooner of fourteen guns, and a ship with sixteen, opened a heavy flanking fire, followed by a vigorous attack on the advanced front and right flank picquets. Captains Hallan and Schaw checked the assailants; the attack was renewed with increased force. The remainder of the 95th were brought up by Colonel Thornton. The enemy, favoured by the darkness, concealed themselves behind a fence, and as Major Gubbins came up with the 85th, hailed them as part of their own force, and offered to assist them in getting over, which they did, and the 85th found themselves surrounded by superior numbers, and called upon to surrender. The answer was an instantaneous attack, and the enemy were repulsed with the loss of thirty prisoners. A like attempt was made on the 95th, with the same success. At half past ten a large column of the enemy was brought against the British centre. Major-General Keane ordered 300 of the 193d, just arrived, to attack it with the bayonet, retaining the 4th in line as a reserve. The retreat of the enemy prevented Colonel Dale from executing the order. Colonel Brooke arrived, with four companies of the 21st, on their right flank. The enemy, with his whole force, in an extensive line, made a last effort, and moved against the light brigade. The advanced posts were driven in, when Colonel Thornton having rallied and moved forward again, with a determination to charge, the enemy retired. On the 25th, Major-General Sir E. Pakenham arrived, and took the command. On the 27th, the schooner was blown up by some hot shot from the artillery. The armed ship was warped up the river. On the following day the English general moved to within gun-shot of an entrenchment thrown up across from the Mississippi to an impassable swampy wood, about 1000 yards. Guns were brought up from the shipping [1], and with these preparations the year ended.

Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 481.

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[1] The following vessels, with troops, comprising the expedition to the coast of America, under the command of Sir A. Cochrane, K. B. and Major-General Keane, proceeded from Negril Bay on the 29th ult.:—

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Tonnant	80	Vice-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane. Rear-Admiral Codrington. Captain Kerr.
Royal Oak	74	Rear-Admiral Malcolm. Captain West.

In the treaty of Ghent, concluded on the 24th of December, 1814, between his Majesty and the United States of America, there is the following article relative to the slave-trade:—

"Art. 10. Whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcileable with the principles of humanity and justice, and whereas both his Majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition, it is hereby agreed, that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavours to accomplish so desirable an object."

1815.

On the 1st of January, the English batteries were opened against the American entrenchment before New Orleans, but from the swampiness of the ground they were rendered ineffective. Major-General Lambert arrived at the outer anchorage in the Vengeur, with a convoy of transports, with the 7th and 43d regiments on board; they joined Sir E. Pakenham on the 6th. On the 8th, the army was formed for a general attack; the enemy's works were strengthened by flanks, and a canal, four feet deep, of an unequal width, in front; eight heavy guns were in position on this line; on the

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African Institution, 9th Report, p. 31. Courier, March 15th, 1815.
Naval Chronicle, vol. xxiii. pp. 388. 487.

Vessels under the Command of Sir A. Cochrane—continued.

SHIPS.	GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
Bedford	74	Captain Walker.
Norge	74	——— Bushford.
Ramillies	74	——— Sir T. M. Hardy.
Asia	70	——— Skene.
Dictator	70	——— Crofton.
Diomede	64	——— Kippen.
Armide	38	——— S. T. Trowbridge.
Belle Vue	38	——— Baker.
Trave	38	——— Money.
Weser	38	——— Sullivan.
Acasta	38	——— Lawrence.
Hieres	38	——— Dobe.
Fox	36	——— Wilcox.
Cydnus	36	——— Langford.
Thames	32	——— Hon. L. Irby.
Dove	32	——— Rodgers.
Bucephalus	32	——— D'Acta.
Calista	16	——— Cobb.
Anacreon	16	——— Westhill.
Borer	14	——— Rawlins.
Manly	14	——— Locke.
Meteor (bomb)	6	——— Prince.
Volcano (bomb)	6	——— Gardner.
Ætna bomb)	6	——— Roberts.
Pigmy (schooner)	6	Lieutenant Crosnon,
Joke (cutter)	—	——— Johnson.

Speedwell schooner, the Gordon store-ship, and several transports.

Courier, February 8th, 1815.

right bank of the river (about 300 yards across) a battery of twelve heavy guns enfiladed the whole front of the position.

At the suggestion of Sir A. Cochrane, a canal was opened between the stream up which the boats had passed and the Mississippi. The plan of attack was; the 85th, 5th West India regiment, 400 marines, and 200 seamen, under Colonel Thornton, with four pieces of artillery, to pass over during the night, move along the right bank towards New Orleans, and carry the flanking battery. The 4th, 21st, and 44th, and three companies of the 95th, under Major-General Gibbs; the 93d, two companies of the 95th, and two companies of the fusileers and 43d, under Major-General Keane. Major-General Gibbs was to make the attack, the fusileers and 43d to form the reserve; the attacking columns to be provided with fascines, scaling ladders, and rafts; the whole to be at their stations before day-light; some black troops were to skirmish in the wood on the right, and the attack made at the earliest hour. An advanced battery of six eighteen-pounders was thrown up in the night, within 800 yards of the enemy's line. A general confidence of success prevailed. The canal was declared sufficiently deep; but when the boats came within 350 yards of the river, they stuck; by great exertions about fifty boats were hauled through, with some of the 85th, and a division of marines and seamen, in all about 600 men, but before they could be of use to make a diversion, every thing had failed in the grand attack. Colonel Mullins, who was to have brought up the fascines and ladders, left them in the rear, and before they could be brought up, the signal to attack (a rocket) was fired. The regiments advanced; there were no fascines, no ladders; the ditch was too deep to wade; the men were cut to pieces; the advance gave way, and broke through the lines of the 93d and 4th. It was in vain that General Keane called upon the men to advance, and bade them remember Egypt: he was wounded and borne off. Sir E. Pakenham's exertions to restore order were equally ineffectual; he was wounded at first in the knee, then his horse was shot, and whilst Major M'Dougall was assisting him to mount a fresh horse, another shot entered his breast, and lodged in the spine. Major-General Sir John Lambert, with the reserve, met the whole falling back in confusion.

The boats had passed the American head-quarters without receiving a shot; during the attack the enemy were otherwise engaged. About ten Sir J. Lambert was informed of Colonel Thornton's success on the right bank; Colonel Dickson, the commanding officer of the artillery, was immediately sent to give his opinion on the means of holding it. It was reported to require 2000 men to secure it; Lieutenant-Colonel Gubbins, who had succeeded to the wounded Colonel Thornton, was therefore ordered to retire. The army remained in position till night, when they destroyed the eighteen-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. pp. 388. 487. Admiral Cochrane's Report.

pounder battery, and returned to the ground occupied previous to the attack. On the 9th of January, it was determined to withdraw the army; and on the night of the 18th it was effected. On the morning of the 19th the troops occupied the ground on both sides the Bayon, or creek where they had disembarked, fourteen miles from their position before the enemy's line. On the 27th the whole were re-embarked, having lost upwards of 2000 men. It was confidently asserted that the Americans received information of the intended attack, by a schooner from Jamaica. A naval officer of rank is said to have divulged it at table after dinner, when several merchants were present. One of them left the party, and sent off the schooner express to New Orleans with the news.

The disastrous result of our attack upon New Orleans is in part accounted for by the conduct of Lieutenant Colonel the Honourable Thomas Mullins, who commanded the 44th regiment, and was afterwards cashiered by the sentence of a court martial, in consequence of his being found guilty of the following charge:—

"For having, on the 8th of January, 1815, shamefully neglected and disobeyed the orders he had received from the late Major-General Gibbs, commanding the 2d brigade, to collect the fascines and ladders, and to be formed with them at the head of the column of attack at the time directed; and in disobedience of the said orders, suffering the regiment under his command to pass the redoubt where the fascines and ladders were lodged, and remaining at the head of the column for half an hour or upwards, without taking any steps to put the 44th regiment in possession of the fascines and ladders, in conformity with the said orders, knowing the period of attack to be momently approaching; in consequence of which disobedience and neglect, the 44th regiment, on being sent back to the redoubt, and returning hurriedly with the fascines, &c., was thrown into confusion, and moved off the attack in an irregular and unconnected manner, leading to the firing and disorder which ensued in the attacking column, and the disasters attending it."

Admiral Cochrane's Report.

"Sir, "Armide, off Isle-au-Chat, Jan. 18th, 1815.

"An unsuccessful attempt to gain possession of the enemy's lines near New Orleans, on the 8th instant, having left me to deplore the fall of Major-General the Honourable Sir Edward Pakenham and Major-General Gibbs, and deprived the service of the present assistance of Major-General Keane, who is severely wounded, I send the Plantagenet to England to convey a dispatch from Major-General Lambert, upon whom the command of the army has devolved, and to inform my lords commissioners of the admiralty of the operations of the combined forces since my arrival upon this coast.

Courier, September 20th, 1815.
Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 341.

" The accompanying letters, Nos. 163 and 169, of the 7th and 16th ult. will acquaint their lordships of the proceedings of the squadron to the 15th December.

" The great distance from the anchorage of the frigates and troop-ships to the Bayon Catalan, which, from the best information we could gain, appeared to offer the most secure, and was indeed the only unprotected spot whereat to effect a disembarkation, and our means, even with the addition of the captured enemy's gun-vessels, only affording us transport for half the army, exclusive of the supplies that were required, it became necessary, in order to have support for the division that would first land, to assemble the whole at some intermediate position, from whence the second division could be re-embarked in vessels brought light into the lake, as near the Bayon as might be practicable, and remain there until the boats could land the first division and return. Upon the 16th, therefore, the advance, commanded by Colonel Thornton of the 85th regiment, was put into the gun-vessels and boats, and Captain Gordon of the Seahorse proceeded with them, and took post upon the Isle aux Poix, a small swampy spot at the mouth of the Pearl river, about thirty miles from the anchorage, and nearly the same distance from the Bayon, where Major-General Keane, Rear-Admiral Codrington, and myself, joined them on the following day, meeting the gun-vessels and boats returning to the shipping for troops and supplies of stores and provisions.

" The Honourable Captain Spencer of the Carron, and Lieutenant Peddy of the quarter-master general's department, who were sent to reconnoitre the Bayon Catalan, now returned with a favourable report of its position for disembarking the army, having, with their guide, pulled up in a canoe to the head of the Bayon, a distance of eight miles, and landed within a mile and a half of the high road to, and about six miles below New Orleans, where they crossed the road without meeting with any interruption, or perceiving the least preparation on the part of the enemy. The severe changes of the weather from rain to fresh gales and hard frost retarding the boats in their repeated passages to and from the shipping, it was not until the 21st that (leaving on board the greater part of the two black regiments and the dragoons) we could assemble troops and supplies sufficient to admit of our proceeding; and on that day we commenced the embarkation of the second division in the gun-vessels, such of the hired craft as could be brought into the lake, and the Anaconda, which, by the greatest exertions, had been got over the shoal passages.

" On the 22d, these vessels being filled with about 2400 men, the advance, consisting of about 1600, got into the boats, and at eleven o'clock the whole started, with a fair wind, to cross Lac Borgne. We had not, however, proceeded above two miles, when

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 341.

the Anaconda grounded, and the hired craft and gun-vessels taking the ground in succession before they had got within ten miles of the Bayon; the advance pushed on, and at about midnight reached the entrance.

" A picquet, which the enemy had taken the precaution to place there, being surprised and cut off, Major-General Keane, with Rear-Admiral Malcolm and the advance, moved up the Bayon, and, having effected a landing at day-break, in the course of the day was enabled to take up a position across the main road to New Orleans, between the river Mississippi and the Bayon.

" In this situation, about an hour after sun-set, and before the boats could return with the second division, an enemy's schooner of fourteen guns, and an armed ship of sixteen guns, having dropped down the Mississippi, the former commenced a brisk cannonading, which was followed up by an attack of the whole of the American army. Their troops were, however, beaten back, and obliged to retire with considerable loss, and Major-General Keane advanced somewhat beyond his former position. As soon as the second division was brought up, the gun-vessels and boats returned for the remainder of the troops, the small armed seamen and marines of the squadron, and such supplies as were required.

" On the 25th, Major-General Sir E. Pakenham and Major-General Gibbs arrived at head quarters, when the former took the command of the army.

" The schooner, which had continued at intervals to annoy the troops, having been burnt on the 27th, by hot-shot from our artillery, and the ship having warped further up the river, the following day the general moved forwards to within gun-shot of an intrenchment which the enemy had newly thrown up, extending across the cultivated ground from the Mississippi to an impassable swampy ground on his left, a distance of about 1000 yards.

" It being thought necessary to bring heavy artillery against this work, and also against the ship, which had cannonaded the army when advancing, guns were brought up from the shipping, and on the 1st instant batteries were opened; but our fire not having the desired effect, the attack was deferred until the arrival of the troops under Major-General Lambert, which were daily expected.

" Major-General Lambert, in the Vengeur, with a convoy of transports, having on board the 7th and 43d regiments, reached the outer anchorage on the 1st; and this reinforcement was all brought up to the advance on the 6th instant, while preparations were making for a second attack, in the proposed plan for which it was decided to throw a body of men across the river, to gain possession of the enemy's guns on the right bank. For this purpose the canal, by which we were enabled to conduct provisions and stores towards the camp, was widened and extended to the river, and about fifty

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 341.

barges, pinnaces, and cutters having, in the day-time of the 7th, been tracked under cover and unperceived close up to the bank, at night the whole were dragged into the Mississippi, and placed under the command of Captain Roberts of the Meteor.

"The boats having grounded in the canal, a distance of 350 yards from the river, and the bank being composed of wet clay thrown out of the canal, it was not until near day-light that, with the utmost possible exertions, this service was completed.

"The 85th regiment, with a division of seamen, under Captain Money, and a division of marines under Major Adair, the whole amounting to about 600 men, commanded by Colonel Thornton of the 85th regiment, were embarked and landed on the right bank of the river, without opposition, just before day-light; and the armed boats moving up the river as the troops advanced, this part of the operation succeeded perfectly; the enemy having been driven from every position, leaving behind him seventeen pieces of cannon. The great loss however sustained by the principal attack having induced General Lambert to send orders to Colonel Thornton to retire, after spiking the guns and destroying the carriages, the whole were re-embarked and brought back, and the boats, by a similar process of hard labour, were again dragged into the canal, and from thence to the Bayon, conveying at the same time such of the wounded as it was thought requisite to send off to the ships. Major-General Lambert having determined to withdraw the army, measures were taken to re-embark the whole of the sick and wounded that it was possible to move, and the stores, ammunition, ordnance, &c., with such detachments of the army, seamen, and marines, as were not immediately wanted, in order that the remainder of the army may retire unincumbered, and the last division be furnished with sufficient means of transport.

"This arrangement being in a forward state of execution, I quitted head-quarters on the 14th instant, leaving Rear-Admiral Malcolm to conduct the naval part of the operations in that quarter, and I arrived at this anchorage on the 16th, where I am arranging for the reception of the army, and preparing the fleet for further operations.

"I must, in common with the nation, lament the loss which the service has sustained by the death of Major-General the Honourable Sir Edward Pakenham, and Major-General Gibbs. Their great military qualities were justly estimated while living, and their zealous devotion to our country's welfare will be cherished as an example to future generations.

"In justice to the officers and men of the squadron under my command who have been employed upon this expedition, I cannot omit to call the attention of my lords commissioners of the admiralty to the laborious exertions and great privations which have

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Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 341.

been willingly and cheerfully borne by every class for a period of nearly six weeks.

“ From the 12th of December, when the boats proceeded to the attack of the enemy’s gun-vessels, to the present time, but very few of the officers or men have ever slept one night on board their ships.

“ The whole of the army, with the principal part of its provisions, its stores, artillery, ammunition, and the numerous necessary appendages, have been all transported from the shipping to the head of the Bayon, a distance of seventy miles, chiefly in open boats, and are now re-embarking by the same process. The hardships, therefore, which the boats’ crews have undergone from their being kept day and night continually passing and repassing in the most changeable and severe weather, have rarely been equalled; and it has been highly honourable to both services, and most gratifying to myself, to observe the emulation and unanimity which has pervaded the whole. Rear-Admiral Malcolm superintended the disembarkation of the army, and the various services performed by the boats; and it is a duty that I fulfil with much pleasure, assuring their lordships that his zeal and exertions, upon every occasion, could not be surpassed by any one. I beg leave to offer my testimony to the unwearied and cheerful assistance afforded to the Rear-Admiral by Captains Sir Thomas M. Hardy, Dashwood, and Gordon, and the several captains and other officers. Rear-Admiral Codrington accompanied me throughout this service, and I feel much indebted for his able advice and assistance.

“ Captain Sir T. Trowbridge, and the officers and seamen attached, under his command, to the army, have conducted themselves much to the satisfaction of the generals commanding. Sir T. Trowbridge speaks in the highest terms of the captains and other officers employed under him as named in his letter (a copy of which is enclosed), reporting their services. He particularly mentions Captain Money of the Trave, who, I am much concerned to say, had both bones of his leg broken by a musket shot, advancing under a heavy fire, to the attack of a battery that was afterwards carried. The conduct of Captain Money at Washington, and near Baltimore, where he was employed with the army, having before occasioned my noticing him to their lordships, I beg leave now to recommend him most strongly to their protection. The wound that he has received, not affording him any probability of his being able to return to his duty for a considerable time, I have given him leave of absence to go to England, and shall entrust to him my dispatches.

“ I have not yet received any official report from the captain of the Nymphe; which ship with the vessels named in the margin[1], were sent into the Mississippi to create a diversion in that quarter.

Gazette Letters, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 341.

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[1] Nymphe, Herald, Ætna, Meteor, Thistle, Pigmy.

"The bombs have been for some days past throwing shells into Fort Placquemain, but, I fear, without much effect. I have sent to recall such of them as are not required for the blockade of the river.

"I have, &c.

"Alexander Cochrane,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief."

"J. W. Croker, Esq."

"Sir, "Head-quarters, near New Orleans, 12th January, 1815.

"The conduct and the exertions of the officers and seamen which you did me the honour to place under my command, to serve with the army on shore, having been such as to meet very general approbation, I feel it a duty I owe to them to make such known to you, and to particularize the exertions of Captains Money, Rogers, and Westphal.

"I cannot sufficiently express the high sense I entertain of the zeal and activity of Lieutenant Scott of the Tonnant, and Lieutenant Fletcher of the Norge, who, on all occasions, have shown themselves most deserving officers.

"Captains Money and Rogers, who were detached across the river, again report the exertion and gallantry of Lieutenant Scott, and also of Mr. Woolcombe, midshipman of his Majesty's ship Tonnant, who particularly distinguished themselves in leading their men under a heavy fire to the battery that was carried. It is with infinite regret I have to report the severe wound Captain Money received while on this service. To Lieutenants, Wroote of the Royal Oak, and Franklin of the Bedford, with the many other officers employed, every praise is due.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"To Vice-Admiral Cochrane." "Thomas Trowbridge."

The American General's Report.

Copy of a Letter from Major-General Jackson to the Secretary of War.

"Sir, "Camp, four miles below Orleans, 9th January, 1815.

"During the days of the 6th and 7th, the enemy had been actively employed in making preparations for an attack on my lines. With infinite labour they had succeeded, on the night of the 7th, in getting their boats across from the lake to the river, by widening and deepening the canal on which they had effected their disembarkation. In my encampment every thing was ready for action, when, early on the morning of the 8th, the enemy, after throwing a heavy shower of bombs and Congreve rockets, advanced their columns on my right and left, to storm my intrenchments. I cannot speak sufficiently in

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Gazette Letter, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 344.
Courier, March 5th, 1815, American Papers.

praise of the firmness and deliberation with which my whole line received their approach; more could not be expected from veterans inured to war. For an hour, the fire of the small arms was as incessant and severe as can be imagined. The artillery too, directed by officers who displayed equal skill and courage, did great execution. Yet the columns of the enemy continued to advance with a firmness which reflects upon them the highest credit. Twice the column which approached me on my left was repulsed by the troops of General Carroll, those of General Coffee, and a division of Kentucky militia, and twice they formed again and renewed the assault. At length, however, cut to pieces, they fled in confusion from the field, leaving it covered with their dead and wounded. The loss which the enemy sustained on this occasion cannot be estimated at less than 1500 in killed, wounded, and prisoners. Upwards of 300 have already been delivered over for burial; and my men are still engaged in picking them up within my lines, and carrying them to the point where the enemy are to receive them. This is in addition to the dead and wounded whom the enemy have been enabled to carry from the fields during and since the action, and to those who have since died of the wounds they received. We have taken about 500 prisoners, upwards of 300 of whom are wounded, and a great part of them mortally. My loss has not exceeded, and I believe has not amounted, to ten killed and as many wounded. The entire destruction of the enemy's army was now inevitable, had it not been for an unfortunate occurrence which at this moment took place on the other side of the river. These having landed were hardy enough to advance against the works of General Morgan, and, what is strange and difficult to account for, at the very moment when their entire discomfiture was looked for with a confidence approaching to a certainty, the Kentucky reinforcements, in whom so much reliance had been placed, ingloriously fled, drawing after them, by their example, the remainder of the forces, and thus yielded to the enemy that most fortunate position. The batteries which had rendered me for many days the most important service, though bravely defended, were of course now abandoned; not however until the guns had been spiked.

"This unfortunate route had totally changed the aspect of affairs. The enemy now occupied a position from which they might annoy us without hazard, and by means of which they might have been able to defeat, in a great measure, the effects of our success on this side of the river. It became therefore an object of the first consequence to dislodge him as soon as possible. For this object all the means in my power, which I could with any safety use, were immediately put in preparation.

"Perhaps, however, it was owing somewhat to another cause, that I succeeded even beyond my expectations. In negociating the terms

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Courier, March 15th, 1815, American Papers.

of a temporary suspension of hostilities, to enable the enemy to bury their dead and provide for their wounded, I had required certain propositions to be acceded to as a basis, among which this was one, that although hostilities should cease on this side of the river until twelve o'clock of this day, yet it was not to be understood that they should cease on the other side; but that no reinforcements should be sent across by either army until the expiration of that day. His excellency, Major-General Lambert, begged time to consider of those propositions until ten o'clock of to-day, and in the mean time re-crossed his troops. I need not tell you with how much earnestness I immediately regained possession of the position he had thus hastily quitted. The enemy having concentrated his forces, may again attempt to drive me from my position by storm. Whenever he does, I have no doubt my men will act with their usual firmness, and sustain a character now become dear to them.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect, your obedient servant

"ANDREW JACKSON, Major-General, commanding."

"Hon. James Munroe, Secretary at War."

Copy of a Letter from Major-General Jackson to the Secretary at War, dated Head-quarters, seventh Military District. Camp, four miles below New Orleans, 19*th January,* 1815.

"Last night, at twelve o'clock, the enemy precipitately decamped and returned to his boats, leaving behind him, under medical attendance, eighty of his wounded, including two officers, fourteen pieces of his heavy artillery, and a quantity of shot, having destroyed much of his powder. Such was the situation of the ground which he abandoned and of that through which he retired, protected by canals, redoubts, entrenchments, and swamps on his right, and the river on his left, that I could not, without encountering a risk which true policy did not seem to require or to authorize, attempt to annoy him much in his retreat. We took only eight prisoners.

"Whether it is the purpose of the enemy to abandon the expedition altogether, or renew his efforts at some other points, I do not pretend to determine with positiveness. In my own mind, however, there is but little doubt that his last exertions have been made in this quarter, at any rate, for the present season, and by the next I hope we shall be fully prepared for him. In this belief I am strengthened, not only by the prodigious loss he has sustained at the position he has just quitted, but by the failure of his fleet to pass Fort St. Philip. His loss on this ground since the debarkation of his troops, as stated by all the last prisoners and deserters, and as confirmed by many additional circumstances, must have exceeded

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Courier, March 15th, 1815, American Papers.

4000, and was greater in the action of the 8th than was estimated, from the most correct data then in his possession, by the inspector-general, whose report has been forwarded to you. We succeeded on the 8th in getting from the enemy about 1000 stand of arms, of various descriptions.

" Since the action of the 8th, the enemy have been allowed very little repose. My artillery from both sides of the river being constantly employed till the night, and indeed until the hour of their retreat, in annoying them, no doubt they thought it quite time to quit a position in which so little rest could be found.

" I am advised by Major Overton, who commands at Fort St. Philip's, in a letter of the 18th, that the enemy having bombarded his fort for eight or nine days, from thirteen-inch mortars, without effect, had, on the morning of that day, retired. I have little doubt that he would have been able to have sunk their vessels had they attempted to run by.

" I have the honour to be, &c.

" ANDREW JACKSON, Maj.-Gen., commanding."

" P.S. On the 18th, our prisoners on shore were delivered to us, an exchange having been previously agreed on. Those who are on board the fleet will be delivered at Petit Coquille, after which I shall have in my hands an excess of several hundreds.

" 20th. Mr. Shields, purser in the navy, has to-day taken fifty-four prisoners, among them are four officers.

" Hon. J. Munroe, Secretary of War."

Major-General Lambert's Dispatch.

" MY LORD, " Head-quarters, Isle Dauphine, February 14th, 1815.

" My dispatch, dated January 29th, will have informed your lordship of the reimbarkation of this force, which was completed on the 30th. The weather came on so bad on that night, and continued so until the 5th of February, that no communication could be held with the ships at the inner anchorage, a distance of about seventeen miles.

" It being agreed between Vice-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane and myself, that operations should be carried towards Mobile, it was decided that a force should be sent against Fort Boyer, situated on the eastern point of the entrance of the bay; and from every information that could be obtained, it was considered a brigade would be sufficient for this object, with a respectable force of artillery. I ordered the second brigade, composed of the 4th, 21st, and 44th regiments, for this service, together with such means in

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London Gazette, April 18th, 1815.

the engineer and artillery department as the captain and commanding officer of the royal artillery might think expedient. The remainder of the force had orders to disembark on Isle Dauphine, and encamp; and Major-General Keane, who, I am truly happy to say, has returned to his duty, superintended this arrangement. The weather being favourable on the 7th for landing to the eastward of Mobile Point, the ships destined to move on that service sailed under the command of Captain Ricketts, of the Vengeur, but did not arrive in sufficient time that evening to do more than determine the place of disembarkation, which was about three miles from Fort Boyer.

" At day-light the next morning, the troops got into the boats, and 600 men were landed under Lieutenant-Colonel Debbeig, of the 44th, who immediately threw out the light companies, under Lieutenant Bennett, of the 4th regiment, to cover the landing of the brigade. Upon the whole being disembarked, a disposition was made to move on towards the fort, covered by the light companies. The enemy was not seen until about 1200 yards in front of their work. They gradually fell back, and no firing took place until the whole had retired into the fort, and our advance had pushed on nearly to within 300 yards. Having reconnoitred the fort, with Lieutenant-Colonels Burgoyne and Dickson, we were decidedly of opinion, that the work was only formidable against an assault; that batteries being once established, it must speedily fall. Every exertion was made by the navy to land provisions, and the necessary equipment of a battering train and engineers' stores. We broke ground on the night of the 8th, and advanced a firing party to within 100 yards of the fort during the night. The position of the batteries being decided upon the next day, they were ready to receive their guns on the night of the 10th, and on the morning of the 11th, the fire of a battery of four eighteen-pounders on the left, and two eight-inch howitzers on the right, each at about 100 yards distance, two six-pounders at about 300 yards, and eight small cohorns advantageously placed on the right, with intervals between 100 and 200 yards, all furnished to keep up an incessant fire for two days, were prepared to open. Preparatory to commencing, I summoned the fort, allowing the commanding officer half an hour for his decision, upon such terms as were proposed. Finding he was inclined to consider them, I prolonged the period at his request; and at three o'clock the fort was given up to a British guard, and the British colours hoisted; the terms being signed by Major Smith, military secretary, and Captain Ricketts, R.N., and finally approved of by the vice-admiral and myself, which I have the honour to inclose. I am happy to say, our loss has not been very great; and we are indebted for this, in a great

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London Gazette, April 18th, 1815.

measure, to the efficient means attached to this force. Had we been obliged to resort to any other mode of attack, the fall could not have been looked for under such favourable circumstances. We have certain information of a force having been sent from Mobile, and disembarked about twelve miles off in the night of the 10th, to attempt its relief. Two schooners, with provisions and an intercepted letter, fell into our hands, taken by Captain Price, R.N., stationed in the bay. I cannot close this dispatch without naming to your lordships again, Lieutenant-Colonels, Dickson, R.A., and Burgoyne, royal engineers, and Lieutenant Bennett, of the 4th, who commanded the light companies, and pushed up close to the enemy's works.

" Captain Hon. R. Spencer, R.N., who had been placed with a detachment of seamen under my orders, greatly facilitated the service, in every way, by his exertions.

" From Captain Ricketts, of the royal navy, who was charged with the landing and disposition of the naval force, I received every assistance.

(Signed) " JOHN LAMBERT, Major-Gen., commanding."

" To Earl Bathurst, &c."

" The English had four killed, and twenty-seven wounded.

" The American garrison of Fort Boyer contained one field officer, three captains, ten subalterns, two staff, sixteen serjeants, sixteen drummers, 327 rank and file, twenty women, sixteen children, three servants, not soldiers."

Extract of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir A. Cochrane, G.C.B. &c., to J. W. Croker, Esq., dated on board his Majesty's Ship Tonnant, off Mobile Bay, the 14*th of February*, 1815.

" It being the intention of Major-General Lambert and myself to have attacked Mobile, and finding the entrance into the bay so guarded by Fort Boyer as to render it unsafe to attempt forcing a passage with the smaller ships of war, the Major-General and myself thought it advisable to attack the fort by land; and on the 7th, a detachment of ships, under the command of Captain Ricketts, of the Vengeur, effected a landing of the troops intended for this service, about three miles to the eastward of the fort, which was immediately invested, and our trenches in the course of forty-eight hours pushed to within pistol-shot of the enemy's works.

" The batteries being completed on the 11th, the fort was summoned, when the officer commanding it, seeing the impossibility of effecting any good by further resistance, agreed to surrender upon the terms proposed to him by Major-General Lambert, (a copy of

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Courier, April 17th, 1817.

the capitulation is inclosed); and on the following day the garrison, consisting of about 360 soldiers of the enemy's 2d regiment of infantry and artillery, marched out and grounded their arms, and were embarked on board the ships of the squadron.

"The fort was found to be in a complete state of repair, having twenty-two guns mounted, and being amply provided with ammunition. To Captain Ricketts and the Hon. Captain Spencer, who commanded the seamen landed with the army, I am indebted for their zeal and exertions in landing and transporting the cannon and supplies, by which the fort was so speedily reduced."

The necessity of taking Fort Boyer was made evident by the loss of his Majesty's ship Hermes, Captain the Hon. W. H. Percy, who, when opposed to it, had the springs upon the cables cut by the enemy's shot, which exposed the Hermes to a raking fire from the fort, in which situation she was set on fire and abandoned.

Peace with America.—A Proclamation.

"George, P. R.

"Whereas a treaty of peace and friendship between his Majesty and the United States of America hath been concluded at Ghent, on the 24th day of December last, and the ratifications thereof have been duly exchanged; in conformity thereunto we have thought fit, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, hereby to com-

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Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 429.—State Papers, p. 247.

Articles of Capitulation agreed upon between Lieutenant-Colonel Lawrence and Major-General Lambert, for the Surrender of Fort Boyer on Mobile Point, Feb. 11th, 1815.

"Art. 1. That the fort shall be surrendered to the army of His Britannic Majesty, in its existing state, as to the works, ordnance, ammunition, and every species of military store.

"2. That the garrison shall be considered as prisoners of war; the troops to march out with their colours flying and drums beating, and ground their arms on the glacis, the officers retaining their swords; and the whole to be embarked in ships as the British naval commander shall appoint.

"3. All private property to be respected.

"4. That a communication shall be made of the same immediately to the commanding officer of the seventh military district of the United States, and every endeavour made to effect an early exchange of prisoners.

"5. That the garrison of the United States remain in the fort until twelve o'clock to-morrow, a British guard being put in possession of the inner gate at three o'clock to-day, the body of the guard remaining on the glacis, and that the British flag be hoisted at the same time; an officer of each service remaining at the head-quarters of each commander, until the fulfilment of these articles.

"Agreed on the part of the royal navy.

(Signed) "T. R. Ricketts, Captain H. M. S. Vengeur.
"H. G. Smith, Major and Military Secretary.
(Approved.) "Alex. Cochrane, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's ships, &c.
"John Lambert, Major-General, commanding.
"Wm. Lawrence, Lieut.-Col. 2d Infantry, commanding."

mand that the same be published throughout all his Majesty's dominions, and we do declare, to all his Majesty's loving subjects, our will and pleasure, that the said treaty of peace and friendship be observed inviolably, as well by sea as land, and in all places whatsoever, strictly charging and commanding all his Majesty's loving subjects to take notice thereof, and to conform themselves thereunto accordingly. Given at the court at Carlton House, the 17th day of March, 1815, in the 55th year of his Majesty's reign.

" God save the King."

In May, the river Mississippi overflowed its banks, and did incalculable damage. Entire settlements are stated to have been many feet under water at Palmyra, Concordie, and a part of Point Coupee. Many sugar and cotton plantations were entirely ruined.

The following letter from Lord Bathurst to the governor of Tobago proves the determination of the British government not to suffer American vessels to trade to the West Indies.

" Sir, " Downing Street, 30th May.

" I have received your dispatch of the 30th of March, and am sorry to be under the necessity of conveying to you the decided

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Courier, July 26th, 1815, American Papers.—October 21st, 1815, from New York Paper.

Upon the 27th February, his Majesty's ship Statira, of thirty-eight guns, struck on a sunken rock near Inagua Bay, and was lost. The captain and crew were all saved.

The Walsingham packet, Capt. Nicholls, beat off an American privateer to windward of Barbadoes.

The gallantry of Captain Nicholls and his crew was considered so conspicuous, that upwards of 500*l.* was subscribed at Jamaica, to purchase a sword for the captain and to reward the men.

Upon the 8th of March, his Majesty's brig Barbadoes captured the Avon, American brig, between Nevis and Antigua. The Avon mounted twelve long nines and two long twenty-four pounders, on pivots, and had a complement of 125 men, one of whom was killed and nine wounded. Lieutenant West, of the Barbadoes, and four men, were wounded, and one man killed.

The Elizabeth schooner, of twelve guns, Lieutenant J. W. Dwyer, was upset when in chase of an American privateer.

Captain Fleming, in his Majesty's sloop Barbadoes, on the 11th of January, captured the American privateer Fox, of seven guns and seventy-two men.

On the 8th of March, he captured another, the Avon, of fourteen guns and 129 men, after a short action, in which the Americans had ten killed and wounded, and the Barbadoes three.

On the 15th of February, the same officer captured, off St. Bartholomew, the American letter-of-marque Vidette, of three guns and thirty men.

His Majesty's ship Laurestinus, of twenty-four guns, Captain A. Gordon, was lost on the Silver Keys, Bahama islands. Crew saved.

The Rapide (tender), of twelve guns, was lost on the Saints. Crew saved.

His Majesty's sloop Halcyon, of eighteen guns, Captain J. H. Marshall, was lost in Anato Bay, on the north side of St. Domingo, on a reef of rocks, thrown up by the earthquake in 1812. Shortly after she struck, she bilged and went down: with great difficulty her crew were saved.

The Racer, of twelve guns, Lieutenant H. F. Pogson, was lost in the Gulf of Florida. Crew saved.

Courier, April 18th, May 6th, 1815. — *Naval Chronicle*, vol. xxxiii. p. 434. — *Steele's Navy List*.

disapprobation of his Majesty's government, of your having admitted any American vessels to entry after the expiration of the orders in council by which such admission was authorized for a limited time. The conduct you have adopted in this instance is both contrary to law and the general interest of his Majesty's colonies, and I am therefore to signify to you the express command of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that you should, in no instance, take it upon yourself to authorize the admission into the port of Tobago, of vessels and cargoes which are excluded by the general laws of the empire. (Signed) "BATHURST."

Upon the 22d of January, 1815, a treaty was signed at Vienna, between Great Britain and Portugal, which states, "It is therefore agreed, that from and after the ratification of the present treaty, and the publication thereof, it shall not be lawful for any of the subjects of the crown of Portugal to purchase slaves, or to carry on the slave trade on any part of the coast of Africa to the northward of the equator, upon any pretext or in any manner whatsoever: Provided nevertheless, that the said provision shall not extend to any ship or ships having cleared out from the ports of Brazil previous to the publication of such ratification, and provided the voyage in which such ship or ships are engaged shall not be protracted beyond six months after such publication as aforesaid.

"His Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal further agrees by this instrument, and binds himself to adopt, in concert with His Britannic Majesty, such measures as may best conduce to the effectual execution of the preceding engagement, according to its true intent and meaning; and his Majesty engages, in concert with his Royal Highness, to give such orders as may effectually prevent any interruption being given to Portuguese ships resorting to the actual dominions of the crown of Portugal, or to the territories which are claimed in the said treaty of alliance as belonging to the said crown of Portugal, and under the treaties subsisting between the two crowns.

"The treaty of alliance concluded at Rio de Janeiro, on the 19th of February, 1810, being founded on circumstances of a temporary nature, which have happily ceased to exist, is by this instrument declared to be void in all its parts, and of no effect, without prejudice, however, to the ancient treaties of alliance, friendship, and guarantee, which have so long and so happily subsisted between the two crowns, and which are hereby renewed by the high contracting parties, and acknowledged to be of full force and effect. The high contracting parties reserve also to themselves, by the same instrument, and engage to determine, by a separate

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African Institution, 9th Report, Appendix.

treaty, the period at which the trade in slaves shall universally cease and be prohibited throughout the entire dominions of Portugal; the Prince Regent of Portugal hereby renewing his former declaration and engagement, that during the interval which is to elapse before such general and final abolition shall take effect, it shall not be lawful for the subjects of Portugal to purchase or trade in slaves upon any parts of the coast of Africa, except to the southward of the line, as specified in the second article of this treaty; nor to engage in the same, or to permit their flag to be used, except for the purpose of supplying the trans-atlantic possessions belonging to the crown of Portugal."

On the 8th of February, the plenipotentiaries of the powers composing the congress at Vienna met for the last time on the question of the slave trade, when they unanimously agreed to publish the following denunciation of that traffic.

" *Declaration.*

"The plenipotentiaries of the powers who signed the treaty of Paris, the 30th of May, 1814, assembled in congress, having taken into consideration that the traffic, known under the name of the African slave trade, has been regarded by just and enlightened men of all ages as repugnant to the principles of humanity and of universal morality; that the particular circumstances to which this traffic owes its origin, and the difficulty of abruptly interrupting its progress, have, to a certain degree, lessened the odium of continuing it; but that at last the public voice in all civilized countries has demanded that it should be suppressed as soon as possible; that since the character and the details of this traffic have been better known, and the evils of every sort which accompanied it completely unveiled, several European governments have resolved to suppress it; and that, successively, all powers, possessing colonies in different parts of the world, have acknowledged, either by legislative acts or by treaties and other formal engagements, the obligation and necessity of abolishing it; that, by a separate article of the last treaty of Paris, Great Britain and France engaged to unite their efforts at the congress at Vienna, to induce all the powers of Christendom to pronounce the universal and definitive abolition of the slave trade; that the plenipotentiaries assembled at this congress cannot better honour their mission, fulfil their duty, and manifest the principles which guide their august sovereigns, than by labouring to realize this engagement, and by proclaiming, in the name of their sovereigns, the desire to put an end to a scourge which has so long desolated Africa, degraded Europe, and afflicted humanity. The said plenipotentiaries have agreed to open their deliberations as to the means

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African Institution, 9th Report, p. 22.

of accomplishing so salutary an object by a solemn declaration of the principles which have guided them in this work.

"Fully authorized to such an act by the unanimous adherence of their respective courts to the principle announced in the said separate article of the treaty of Paris, they in consequence declare, in the face of Europe, that looking upon the universal abolition of the slave trade as a measure particularly worthy of their attention, conformable to the spirit of the age, and to the generous principles of their august sovereigns, they are animated with a sincere desire to concur, by every means in their power, in the most prompt and effectual execution of this measure, and to act in the employment of those means with all the zeal and all the perseverance which so great and good a cause merits.

"Too well informed of the sentiments of their sovereigns not to foresee, that however honourable may be their object, they would not pursue it without a just regard to the interests, habits, and even the prejudices of their subjects, the said plenipotentiaries at the same time acknowledge, that this general declaration shall not prejudge the period which each particular power should look upon as most expedient for the definitive abolition of the traffic in slaves. Consequently, the determination of the period when this traffic ought universally to cease will be an object of negotiation between the different powers; it being, however, well understood, that no means proper to ensure and accelerate its progress should be neglected, and that the reciprocal engagement, contracted by the present declaration between the sovereigns who have taken part in it, should not be considered as fulfilled until the moment when complete success shall have crowned their efforts.

"In making this declaration known to Europe and to all the civilized nations of the earth, the said plenipotentiaries flatter themselves they shall engage all other governments, and particularly those who, in abolishing the traffic in slaves, have already manifested the same sentiments, to support them with their suffrages in a cause, of which the final triumph will be one of the greatest monuments of the age which undertook it, and which shall have gloriously carried it into complete effect.

"Vienna, February 8th, 1815."

Upon the 21st of June, 1815, his Majesty issued orders for letters of marque and general reprisals to be granted against France, and any persons, being subjects of France, "saving always such exceptions as his Royal Highness may, at any time or times hereafter, be pleased to declare."

During the short period which elapsed between the peace of Paris in 1814, and the return of Buonaparte to France, the French slave

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State Papers, Naval Chronicle, vol. xxxiii. p. 483.
African Institution, 10th Report, p. 11.

trade had begun to resume its former activity. Ships were fitted out from Bourdeaux, Nantes, and Havre, some of which succeeded in procuring their human cargoes on the African coast, and landing them in the West Indies A few, however, fell into the hands of our cruizers, and were condemned in the first instance in our vice-admiralty courts as being enemy's property. Most, if not all of these, have, however, been restored to the claimants, on the ground that they were comprised in the order of council which exempted from condemnation vessels sailing under the white flag, and bound to ports where that flag was erected.

Buonaparte's Decree abolishing Slavery.

"Napoleon, Emperor of the French.

"We have decreed, and do decree as follows:—

"Art. 1. From the date of the publication of the present decree, the slave trade is abolished. There shall not be permitted any expedition for this trade, either in the ports of France, or in those of our colonies.

"2. There shall not be introduced for the purpose of sale, in our colonies, any Negroes, the produce of this trade, whether French or foreign.

"3. The breach of this decree shall be punished by the confiscation of the vessel and cargo, to be pronounced by our courts and tribunals.

"4. Nevertheless, the persons who, before the publication of the present decree, shall have fitted out and dispatched vessels for this trade, shall be at liberty to sell their cargoes in our colonies.

"5. Our ministers are charged with the execution of the present decree. (Signed) "NAPOLEON."

"By the Emperor,
"The Minister of State, (signed) The Duke of Bassano.

"Dated March 29th, 1815."

Slave Trade.—Note from Viscount Castlereagh to Prince Talleyrand.

"PRINCE, "Paris, July 27th, 1815.

"The official order of the admiralty, which I had the honour of transmitting to your highness on the 26th, having suspended hostilities against the coast of France, and against French ships carrying the white flag, I have been directed by my court, without delay, to call your attention to the necessity of guarding, under these circumstances, against any possible revival of the slave trade.

"The British government conceive, that under the operation of the law of France, as it now stands, it is strictly prohibited to French

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African Institution, 9th Report, Appendix, p. 83; 10th Report, p. 3.
Courier, April 3d; December 19th, 1815, Official Documents.

subjects to carry on a traffic in slaves; and that nothing but a specific ordinance could again revive that commerce; but whether this be the true construction or not of the state of the law in a technical sense, they feel persuaded that His most Christian Majesty will never lend his authority to revive a system of this nature, which has been, de facto, abolished.

"I have desired Sir C. Stuart to communicate to your highness what passed on this subject at Ghent. The assurance the King was at that time pleased to give to the British ambassador entirely tranquillized the Prince Regent's ministers on this subject; but now that his Majesty has been happily restored to his throne, they are most anxious to be enabled at once to relieve the solicitude of the British nation, by declaring, that the King, relieved by the state in which this measure now stands from those considerations of reserve which before influenced his conduct, does not hesitate to consider that question as now for ever closed, in conformity with those benevolent principles which are at all times congenial with the natural feelings of his Majesty's breast. "I have the honour to be, &c.

"His Excellency Prince Talleyrand." "CASTLEREAGH."

Slave Trade.—Note from Prince Talleyrand to Viscount Castlereagh.

(Translation.)

"MY LORD, "Paris, July 30th, 1815.

"I have the honour to acquaint your excellency that the King, in consequence of the conversation he has had with Sir Charles Stuart, and of the letter which your excellency did me the honour to write to me on the 27th instant, has issued directions in order that, on the part of France, the traffic in slaves may cease from the present time, every where and for ever. What has been done in this respect by the usurper, was in the first place null and void, as were all his decrees, and moreover had been evidently dictated to him by personal motives of interest, and by hopes, which he would never have conceived, had he been capable of appreciating the British government and people. It had not, therefore, and could not have any weight with his Majesty.

"But it was with regret that, last year, his Majesty stipulated the continuance of the traffic for a few years. He had only done so, because, on the one hand, he was aware that on this point there existed in France prejudices which it was, at that time, adviseable to sooth; and that, on the other hand, it was not possible to ascertain with precision what length of time it would require to remove them.

"Since that period those prejudices have been attacked in several publications, and with such effect as to afford his Majesty, this day, the satisfaction of following, without reserve, the dictates of his

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Courier, December 19th, Official.

inclination; the more so since it has been proved by inquiries made with the greatest care, that the prosperity of the French colonies not being compromised by the immediate abolition of the trade, the said abolition is not contrary to the interests of his subjects; interests which, above all, his Majesty thought himself bound to consult. This satisfaction is increased by the idea, that his Majesty, at the same time, does what is agreeable to the government and people of Great Britain. Accept, my lord, the assurance, &c.

"THE PRINCE DE TALLEYRAND."

"His Excellency Lord Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c."

Slave Trade.—Note from Viscount Castlereagh to Prince Talleyrand.

"Paris, July 31st, 1815.

"The undersigned, His Britannic Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, has the honour to acknowledge Prince Talleyrand's note of this date, conveying to him the decision taken by His most Christian Majesty finally to abolish the slave trade throughout the French dominions. The undersigned will not lose a moment in transmitting this communication to his court, and he ventures in the mean time to assure his highness, that the King could not have taken any determination more personally grateful to the Prince Regent and the whole British nation.

"The undersigned, &c.

"CASTLEREAGH."

"His Highness Prince Talleyrand."

Extract from Dispatches addressed to Earl Bathurst by Officers administering the Governments of ceded Colonies at the Periods of their Cession.

From Major General Ramsay.

"St. Thomas, April 15th, 1815.

"I have the honour of reporting to your lordship that I, this day at noon, gave up the military possession of the island of St. Thomas and its dependencies to the Danish government, agreeable to the instructions of his excellency the commander of the forces."

There is no official report of the cession of Saint Croix and Guadaloupe, but on the 28th of February, 1815, Major-General Ramsay acknowledged the receipt of instructions from Earl Bathurst not to delay the delivery of Saint Croix to General Oxholm, on the part of the Danish government. No doubt these instructions would be immediately obeyed.

In April, General Morillo, with 10,000 chosen troops from Spain,

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MS. Records in the Colonial Office, copied, by permission of W. Horton, Esq., Under Secretary of State, &c., for this Work.

Outline of the Revolution in Spanish America, London, 1817, p. 97.

appeared before Carupano; such an armament had never before been seen on the coast of Venezuela. "Alarm was now spread among those who had been fighting for the cause of independence. All hopes of reconciliation were abandoned, and a revolt in Spanish America against the authority of Ferdinand VII., dates from this period. From Carupano, General Merillo proceeded to Margarita; from thence to Caraccas, and in the following August he besieged Carthagena. The dissensions between Bolivar and Castillo had lessened the means of defence which Carthagena possessed, and even deprived it of supplies of provisions. The inhabitants, nevertheless, supported by near 2000 regular troops, prepared themselves for a vigorous resistance. The only attack upon the town, or rather upon the fort of San Felipe which commands the town, was made the 11th of November, when the assailants were repulsed. Provisions, however, began to fail, and the vessels which approached the harbour were taken by the Spanish ships of war which blockaded the port. More than three thousand persons died actually of famine." The 5th of December, 1815, the governor and garrison evacuated the place, and the following morning, the King's troops entered.

It is not intended to enter into the history of the war upon the continent; but it may be proper to record that Major-General le Couteur, the governor of Curaçoa, received a letter from General Pablo Morillo, dated June 30th, 1815, which contained a notification that the Spanish government had declared all the ports on the coast in a state of blockade, and that he would confiscate any vessel he met with in those seas.

On May the 10th, Lieutenant General Sir James Leith, G.C.B., was appointed governor of Barbadoes.

Upon the 29th of June, the government of Hayti published a notification, that the most effectual measures would be taken for the safety of all friendly vessels trading to Hayti, in consequence of the depredations of pirates in the neighbourhood of Monte Christi, whose crews were composed of people of all nations and colours, and that, in the event of apprehending any of the marauders, they would be "hanged without fail," of whatever nation they might be; "let them call themselves what they will, Carthagenians, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Spaniards, the law will be rigidly executed."

King Henry made a proposal to Petion for an union of the Haytians, which was rejected. Petion stated that Christophe offered titles with one hand, while he carried a dagger in the other. King Henry's minister, Count Limonade, said, that the deputies were well received by every one except Petion himself, whom he

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Courier, May 13th, Gazette; July 6th, September 22d, November 15th, 1815.

accused of having made a treaty with Buonaparte, of protecting a French spy, and declares that he believes him to be sold to the French Whites.

A plot was afterwards laid to assassinate Petion, but the ringleader was arrested, tried, and shot, on the very day that Petion was to have been assassinated.

Dispatch from Lieutenant-General Sir J. Leith to Earl Bathurst.

" My Lord, " Head-quarters, Fort Royal, Martinico, June 10th, 1815.

" I am happy to inform you, that I have occupied the military points of Martinico by a British auxiliary force which landed here on the morning of the 5th instant.

" The situation of Martinico was indeed critical, for the troops of the line, consisting of 1300 men, who possessed the forts, shewed too much of the same disposition which has manifested itself in France. The majority of the officers were decidedly for Buonaparte, some putting up the tri-coloured cockade, and others, with

Courier, July 26th; November 15th, 1815, American Papers.

The King of Hayti had a state carriage made in London; the following description is given of it:—" The body is constructed peculiarly for the country, the shape being entirely nouvelle, the front projecting for the purpose of shade, which is exceedingly pleasing to the eye; the lining of the richest velvet, embroidered with the star of the order of St. Henry; the drapery fringed with gold of immense richness. The painting of the body is most exquisitely executed, the lower pannels being painted the royal colour, celestial blue; the arms beautifully painted, surrounded with ornaments, and encircled with an elegant border of flowers, the whole most tastefully displayed. The upper pannels are covered with a Mosaic net work, enriched with military and naval trophies. The cornice to the roof is extremely rich, terminating with Phœnixes at each corner, and besides supported with emblematical figures of Liberty, Justice, and Fortitude, and surmounted with the royal crown. Rich gilt mouldings surround the framed work of the body. The lamps are peculiarly constructed, and of grand appearance. The carriage part, which is a crane, or swan-necked, appears one mass of exquisite figures and ornaments, particularly the hind standards, where lions, supporting the arms, are surmounted with trophies and crowns, and elevated on blocks of excellent workmanship. The seat and forepart, resembling the lions' standards, are solidly gilt. The braces and every ornament correspond with equal grandeur, There are besides harness for eight horses, which for grandeur and elegance exceed any description that can be given. It appears a mass of silver, in which is displayed the nicest art of embossing. The bridles, surmounted with rich plumes of feathers, correspond in taste and elegance with the carriage. There are twenty-two other carriages, and harness for 119 horses, for the royal family and nobility."

The court dresses for the queen and princesses of Hayti were made in London. The following is the description:—" The Queen of Hayti's dress consists of a petticoat of white satin, richly embroidered in gold sun-flowers, terminating at the bottom with a broad gold fringe; the train of white satin, embroidered like the petticoat, looped up on each side (to form a drapery) with gold tassels and bullion; a beautiful gold net falls from the left shoulder, and fastens under the right arm, held up by large cords of bullion over the shoulder, the corners and edges finished with tassels and fringe. A rich plume of white feathers, ornamented by combs of immense value, completes the dress."

Courier, October 30th, November 1st, *American Papers.*

similar sentiments, less avowed, pretending that they only wished to return to France. The soldiers were chiefly refractory conscripts, who had never served, and had no attachment to Buonaparte, but having escaped from the army under his severe system, finding themselves expatriated under the King's government was not likely to create an attachment to the Bourbon cause; they generally wished to return home.

" Le Comte de Vaugiraud acted with much good sense in anticipating the mischief which might have arisen, and which he had not the power to have controlled, by assembling the troops and releasing those of the officers who desired it from their obligations, informing them, at the same time, that they must quit Martinico, and declaring that any attempt to raise the standard of rebellion would be repelled by force, and punished as an act of mutiny in defiance of the oaths of fidelity which they had taken to Louis XVIII.

" I had desired Le Comte de Vaugiraud to give it to be understood, that the white flag was the only permanent security of the troops or of the colony, and I immediately assembled the forces now in possession of the island in Gros Islet Bay, St. Lucia, within four hours' sail of Fort Royal, to give effect to the Comte de Vaugiraud's measures.

" This fine colony was several times on the point of being thrown into a state of revolutionary convulsion by the conduct of the troops, all of whom, with the exception of the remainder of the 26th regiment, amounting to 450 men, including officers who remain under the white flag, have been permitted to depart, and are actually gone.

" The militia of Martinico amount to about 6000 men, who are well disposed; one-half only have arms: 150 are mounted. Immediately after the occupation of the military points by the troops under my command, the government of the colony published a decree by which British vessels are received on the same footing as French. This act was perfectly spontaneous, and indeed has been marked by the same spirit of cordiality which has actuated the Comte de Vaugiraud in every part of the intercourse which I have had with him.

" It would be unjust to Comte de Vaugiraud not to express my sense of the honourable devotion which he has uniformly shewn to the zealous performance of his duty to his sovereign, of his dignity and good sense, under very critical circumstances, and of his grateful attachment to the Prince Regent, the British government and nation, for the assistance which has saved Martinico. The gratitude, indeed, of the colony at large has been most unequivocally

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Courier, July 26th, 1815.

testified. I shall be happy to find that the steps I have taken have been such as may be approved by the Prince Regent.

"I have the honour to be, &c.
"JAMES LEITH,
"Lieutenant-General commanding the Forces."
"Earl Bathurst, &c."

The soldiers, however, did not get to France; 500 of them were detained by his Majesty's ship Eridanus, of thirty-eight guns, and sent into Plymouth, where they were sent to prison upon the 3d of July.

Admiral Durham took possession of the Saints.

"*Proclamation, June* 6*th*, 1815.

"Pierre-Rene Mune, Comte de Vaugiraud, governor of the island of Martinico, &c. &c., and Louis François du Buc, intendant of the said island, to all good and loyal subjects of the King, and to the brave soldiers and seamen of this colony.

"From the first moment of the crisis which again agitates Europe, the King has constantly fixed his attention on the fate of his children, however great may be the space which separates them from him, and is united with his allies to preserve you from every disaster.

"The effects of this powerful intervention in your favour have quickly been manifested. Faithful to treaties, the British government does not separate her cause from that of the most Christian King. Their excellencies Sir James Leith and Sir Charles Durham have been ordered to join us in this archipelago, for the purpose of preserving the sovereignty of Martinico to the crown of France, under the immortal banner of its legitimate sovereign.

"They come, in the name of our own sovereign and of yours, to assure to this island, favoured by Providence, the repose which those princes and their allies have given to the world, but which the world has not been able to preserve; they come to aid us in guaranteeing from the scourge of war your agriculture, your commerce, and all kinds of prosperity of which your country is susceptible; they come, in fine, to support with you on the same soil the glory of the French name, which is now irrevocably attached to the destiny of Louis the Desired, and his august house.

"You will read the noble conditions under which these generous auxiliaries approach your shores. They wish no other reward for their important services than the happiness of having rendered them.

Courier, August 4th, 1815. Martinico Gazette, June 6th, 1815.

" Receive them with gratitude, and remember, that if, on the one hand, the factions of our days resemble those of the League, on the other, sovereigns of France and England, in uniting their colours, present to our view the consoling aspect of the worthy successors of Henry and Elizabeth.

" Comte du Buc de Vaugiraud."

" Given at Martinico,
June 4th, 1815."

" Terms on which I propose to afford the assistance of a British land force, to uphold the sovereignty of His most Christian Majesty Louis XVIII. over the island of Martinico.

" Head-quarters, Barbadoes, 20th May, 1815.

" 1. The entire sovereignty of the island shall remain in the name and under the flag of Louis XVIII., King of France and Navarre.

" 2. The British troops shall be put in possession of Fort Royal, Fort Bourbon, Bouille Redoubt, and Pigeon Island, and shall in every respect act as an auxiliary force to aid his excellency the Comte de Vaugiraud in carrying on the government for his sovereign.

" 3. The British troops shall be maintained at the expence of the British monarchy, receiving, however, every friendly assistance in procuring provisions, for which they will pay as is customary.

" 4. The British troops shall be under proper discipline, and any act contrary to good order shall be promptly punished by the British military laws; they shall not be subject to the French colonial laws; and, on the other hand, the British troops will appeal to the government of His most Christian Majesty, if they should have cause of complaint against any of his subjects, whose persons and properties will be completely respected by the officers and soldiers of His Britannic Majesty.

" This stipulation I subscribe, in the name of my sovereign, and promise to maintain, being reciprocally guaranteed by his excellency the Comte de Vaugiraud, who is to remain in the full possession and exercise of the government. All attempts to raise the tri-coloured flag, or the standard of Buonaparte the usurper, being mutually resisted by arms, and those who would make such attempts being treated as enemies of the allied sovereigns of Great Britain and France.

(Signed) " James Leith, Lieutenant-General,
Captain-General and Commander
of His Britannic Majesty's land
forces, &c. &c."

Courier, August 4th, 1815. Martinico Gazette, June 6th, 1815.

By a singular concurrence, Buonaparte was proclaimed Emperor at Guadaloupe upon the 18th of June. The Chevalier Fromentin was the chief orator upon the occasion. He spoke of the tri-coloured flag "having never been conquered," and of its "fixing for ever the destinies of France ! ! !"

Admiral Linois, the governor of Guadaloupe, issued a proclamation, declaring the ports of that colony and its dependencies open to vessels with all kinds of produce and merchandize. The duties to be the same as those already established for French vessels, viz., on imports two and half per cent. ; exports five per cent.

Letter to Le Comte de Linois. Guadaloupe.

"SIR, "His Majesty's ship Venerable, August 3d, 1815.

"We send you a proclamation, which it is our intention to circulate upon landing at Guadaloupe.

"It is unnecessary to make any comments on the contents, as they are applicable to you, Sir, as well as every other individual of the colony.

"We are, Sir, yours, &c.

"JAMES LEITH, Lieutenant-General, Commander of His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces.

"P. C. DURHAM, Commander-in Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces."

"To Le Comte de Linois, &c. Guadaloupe."

Proclamation by Lieutenant-General Sir J. Leith, K.G. C. B., &c. &c. commanding in chief His Britannic Majesty's Land Forces in the Leeward Islands, and Rear Admiral Sir C. Durham, commanding in chief His Majesty's Naval Forces.

"INHABITANTS OF GUADALOUPE !

"The misrepresentations and artifices which have been employed to deceive you with regard to the true situation of Europe, the principles resulting at the same time from despotism and anarchy, by which your revolutionary chiefs have conducted you to the brink of the precipice on which you stand, can no longer prevail ; the veil is torn, — your eyes are opened.

"You are not ignorant that it was the intention of our sovereign to furnish every assistance for the support of your legitimate government ; but these generous offers have been rejected by the men who have misled you.

Courier, July 6th, 1815; Sept. 1st, 1815, from Gaudaloupe Gazette; Sept. 19th, London Gazette.

" We consequently come with a formidable military and naval force, to place Guadaloupe under the protection of His Britannic Majesty.

" The loyal and honourable supporters of Louis XVIII. will see that, after having done every thing which depended upon us to maintain the white flag, no other alternative remained, either for the salvation of Guadaloupe, or for our own security, but to hoist the British standard.

" We are not the less, however, the allies of the legitimate government of France, and we invite all good and loyal Frenchmen to rally round us.

" It is necessary to make known to you the situation of Europe and of France, which has, no doubt, been concealed from you by your revolutionary chiefs. Buonaparte has been defeated by the Duke of Wellington and Prince Blucher, in a great and decisive battle, fought on the 18th of June; his army annihilated, and all his artillery and baggage taken. The usurper fled with some of his perjured generals, and reached Paris, where, knowing how desperate was his situation, he abdicated the pretended Imperial crown.

" The allies were at La Fere and at Laon, on the 24th of June, in full march on Paris, where they would arrive on the 26th. There was nothing to oppose them.

" The Austrians and Russians were penetrating into France in mass, by Italy, Switzerland, and Alsace. At the same time, His most Christian Majesty had re-entered France, and by the latest accounts was advancing from Cambray.

" The terms upon which we promise to receive the colony, and the consequences which will result from a refusal, are briefly these. As there is reason to believe that many officers and soldiers of the line have only yielded to circumstances, and serve under the tri-coloured flag merely with the hope of seizing the first favourable opportunity to evince their loyalty, those who shall immediately so declare themselves shall be admitted to the protection of the British flag, and shall be recommended, in the strongest manner, to Comte de Vaugiraud, governor-general of the French islands, and representative of His most Christian Majesty.

" All officers and soldiers of the line, actually serving under the tri-coloured flag, who shall so declare and separate themselves from the partizans of Napoleon Buonaparte, and who shall surrender with their arms to the British forces, shall be sent to France as prisoners of war, to be disposed of according to the orders of the Duke of Wellington. The officers and soldiers who shall thus surrender themselves shall preserve their baggage.

" The militia, and other inhabitants in arms, under the tri-coloured flag, who shall immediately separate themselves from the troops of

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Courier, September 19th, 1815, London Gazette.

the line, serving under the revolutionary banner, and lay down their arms, shall be permitted to return immediately to their respective homes, where they shall be protected, as well as their property. Every officer or soldier of the line, who, after publication of this notice, shall continue to oppose the arms of His Britannic Majesty, shall be sent a prisoner of war to England. Every officer or soldier of militia, and every other inhabitant, who, after this proclamation, shall be found in arms, shall be treated as a prisoner of war, and sent immediately out of the colony to be placed in confinement.

"Provided Guadaloupe shall immediately submit to His Britannic Majesty's forces, and its inhabitants shall take an oath of fidelity for the time the colony may remain under British dominion, the inhabitants and their private property shall be protected, and the commerce of the colony shall be placed upon a more advantageous footing than during the last war.

"The religion and laws of the country shall be respected.

"No person who shall avail himself of the advantages of this proclamation shall be molested on account of his opinions or political conduct previous to the day of its promulgation.

"Every person who shall not immediately avail himself of this proclamation shall be treated, as well as his property, according to the laws of war and the right of conquest.

(Signed) "JAMES LEITH.
"P. C. DURHAM."

Capture of Guadaloupe. — (*Official.*) — *General Sir James Leith's, G.C.B., Letter to Earl Bathurst.*

"MY LORD, "Basse Terre, Guadaloupe, August 12th, 1815.

"Having concerted with the commander-in-chief the necessary naval arrangements, Rear-Admiral Sir C. Durham was so obliging as to receive me, with the head-quarters, on board his Majesty's ship Venerable, bearing his flag.

"The fleet, consisting of the vessels of war, such parts of the troops as had been assembled from the South American continent and from the Windward Islands, sailed from Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, on the 31st of July, whilst the land force, destined to proceed from St. Lucia, Martinique, and Dominico, were directed to rendezvous, without delay, at the Saints. Your lordship will have already been apprised by a former dispatch, that the important post of the Saints was already garrisoned by British troops, and placed in a state to have resisted all attacks of the enemy, while the expedition was not yet in a state of preparation.

"It was important to keep the attacking force to windward of

Courier, September 19th, 1815, London Gazette.

Guadaloupe as long as the hurricane season (already begun) might permit.

“ The first division from Barbadoes anchored in the bay of St. Louis, Mariegalante, on the 2d of August, and from thence were ordered to threaten a landing to windward of Point-à-Petre and Fort Fleur d'Epée, where the enemy was in force.

“ The second or leeward division assembling (but were not yet collected) at the Saints, threatened the whole coast from St. Marie to Basse Terre and Baillif.

“ It was deemed advisable to accompany the demonstration of a landing in force from Gosier, by a summons to surrender the forts Point-à-Petre and Grande Terre. It was the rear-admiral's intention and mine to have met the first division in the Venerable, which sailed from the Saints for that purpose. Calms and currents, however, prevented the Venerable from reaching the coast, and obliged the first division to anchor.

“ The appearance of the atmosphere denoted the approach of a hurricane; it became therefore necessary to give up secondary objects, and to embrace the first favourable moment for getting the fleet into the Saints; for which the commander-in-chief made the necessary dispositions.

“ It was not until the night of the 7th that the whole force was assembled at the Saints.

“ I had previously reconnoitred the coast in the Barbadoes brig of war, which Rear-Admiral Sir C. Durham had sent with me for that purpose.

“ The internal state of Guadaloupe and the season were both so critical, that not a moment was to be lost; I determined therefore to attack the enemy on the morning of the 8th instant. Having made the necessary arrangements with the naval commander-in-chief, the whole fleet got under weigh at break of day, and stood toward the Anse St. Sauveur, where the landing most to windward was to be effected.

“ I had received information that the troops of the line and militia under arms, altogether, amounted to 6000. I determined therefore to throw my principal force between that of the enemy in Grande Terre and Basse Terre, where it was his intention to have assembled nearly the whole of his force, immediately after our demonstration to windward had of necessity terminated. My plan was to attack in three columns; the scarcity of boats and the surf required that the whole should assist in each disembarkation, which was therefore effected successively. The first was made at the Anse St. Sauveur, where a detachment of the enemy, about 500 strong, moving from Grande Terre to join Admiral Count Linois and General Boyer, shewed a disposition to oppose the landing.

“ The brigs of war and gun-boats, however, soon scoured that

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point, and 850 of the Royal York rangers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Starck, disembarked (notwithstanding a heavy surf) without the loss of a man.

" Lieutenant-Colonel Starck had instructions to make a rapid movement to drive and disperse the enemy occupying the strong country and ravines of Trou au-Chien, Petit Carbel, and looking towards Trois Riviers, to threaten the left flank and rear of the enemy, posted to oppose the landing at Grand Anse, and to drive him from the important communication of Pautrizel, which leads to turn the strong post of Dole and Morne Palmiste, the latter being one of the principal keys to Basse Terre. Meanwhile the fleet dropped down to Grand Anse, to effect the principal landing, where the enemy was in force and possessed a strong position, with batteries commanding the landing place, which was susceptible of obstinate defence. The brigs of war and a gun-boat, placed to enfilade, soon obliged the enemy to abandon his guns, one of which only, a long twelve-pounder, was found mounted. The surf was very great, and one of the gun-boats was lost; but the exertions of the navy, and the steadiness of the troops, surmounted every difficulty.

" The 15th and 25th regiments, with the remainder of the 1st and 2d brigades, under Major-Generals Sir Charles Shipley and Stehelin, were safely disembarked.

" I immediately moved forward the troops to drive the enemy; but if he had before any hopes of maintaining his position for the night, a sharp fire of musketry, by which we speedily drove him from Pautrizel, placed his left flank en l'air, and obliged him to retire.

" The approach of darkness left no further means of attack that night, and I placed the troops in their bivouac. At break of day on the 9th the troops were put in motion in two columns; the 1st brigade, under Major-General Sir C. Shipley, moved upon and occupied Dole; the 2d, under Major-General Stehelin, marched upon the left of the Morne Palmiste, and on the face of that mountain commanding the main road to Basse Terre; his advance occupied Petit's plantation.

" Captain Leith Hay, my aid-de-camp, was ordered to gain the top of Morne Boucamer, by a difficult detour, with a rifle company of the Royal West India rangers, and light company of the 6th West India regiment, to alarm the enemy's right flank and rear, which, being accomplished, obliged him to withdraw; his posts were every where driven, and he retreated to the Morne Palmiste. I determined to push the enemy as rapidly as was possible, considering the nature of the country, of which every part is not only susceptible of defence, but is even difficult of access without resistance, especially under the heat of a tropical sun. A heavy cannonade now announced the disembarkation of the 3d brigade, under Major-

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General Douglas, in the vicinity of Baillif, and to leeward of Basse Terre. I had instructed him to seize the batteries Des Trois; to occupy the capital; to mask, or, if practicable, to take Fort St. Charles by a coup-de-main; to open his communication with the columns moving to the attack of Morne Palmiste, and to menace his retreat from thence to Morne Houel.

" Major-General Douglas was, if necessary, also to detach from his rear, for the purpose of taking the passes of Zougeres, Pont de Noziere and Constantine, commanding the approaches to the strong heights of Matouba, in reverse, so that the enemy might not have the means of equivocating between those positions, but be compelled to choose at once his dernier resource.

" The enemy, who had been driven by the vessels covering the landing, collected on the heights, and attacked the light company of the 63d regiment, who were advanced; they gallantly maintained their ground against upwards of 300 of the enemy, who came down to attack them. Captain Lynch and Lieutenant Wigley were wounded on this occasion. Major-General Douglas in person supported them by part of the York chasseurs, under Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart, and he was immediately driven with loss.

" While this operation was going on, the columns of the 1st and 2d brigades gained the heights of Morne Palmiste, from whence the enemy was driven at all points, and was now retiring to Morne Houel, which he had fortified with eight pieces of artillery. This was the position where Comte Linois and General Boyer had professed their determination of ultimately disputing the superiority in the field. I received information that the commandant of Grande Terre, with the whole armed force, was, as I expected, moving in my rear, to form a junction with the main body at Morne Houel. I accordingly reinforced my rear-guard to protect our communications, and occupied in force all the passes of the Gallion, a river running through a formidable ravine at the foot of Morne Palmiste. Thus the troops from Grande Terre were completely cut off from forming their junction, which they attempted, without success, by paths through the wood, late in the afternoon, but with light sufficient to point out to Comte Linois and General Boyer, that all their plans of concentration were defeated. After these laborious movements, which the troops executed in the most creditable manner, there was only time before night to place the columns in readiness to attack the formidable position of Morne Houel at day-break in the morning. The troops accordingly took up their bivouacs. It rained heavily at eleven o'clock P. M. In the night of the 9th, the commanding French engineer came to me on the top of Morne Palmiste, verbally to propose a capitulation in the name of Le Comte de Linois, to which I replied that the only terms I ever would accede to, were already published in the proclamation issued on landing,

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and that I would not delay the attack on Morne Houel, to wait for any further communications. It was so dark, and the rain fell in such torrents, that the officer from the enemy, and Captain Moody, my aid-de-camp, took up the greatest part of the night in finding their way to the enemy's position. The troops were put in motion at day-break. An officer soon after met me with written proposals, which I positively refused, and proposed some additional conditions. A white flag was displayed on Morne Houel; but I sent Major-General Murray (who had joined the army from Demerary the preceding night), and my aid-de-camp, Captain Leith Hay, with the British flag, to say, that the only signal which should stop the troops, would be to see it displayed on the parapet. I had the satisfaction immediately after to see the British standard flying on Morne Houel, and thereby to ascertain that all the troops were prisoners of war, and all the forts and the colony in our possession.

"I am happy to be enabled to assure your lordship, that the conduct of the troops has been most zealous, gallant, and exemplary.

"To the naval commander-in-chief, Rear-Admiral Sir C. Durham, the service is highly indebted for his prompt and active exertions in whatever concerned the co-operation of the naval force with the army on this expedition.

"From Major-Generals Sir C. Shipley, Stehelin, Johnson, and Douglas, I have received most useful and zealous assistance, as also from Major-General Murray since his joining the army. Major-General Sir C. Shipley was employed in the preliminary occupation of Mariegalante, and in reconnoitring Guadaloupe, which he executed with much advantage to the service. Major-General Douglas, to whose assistance, as adjutant-general, I am much indebted, served on this expedition with a brigade, and executed the service on which he was detached in a gallant and soldier-like manner.

"The exertions of all the captains and officers who conveyed troops, covered and conducted the disembarkation, are deserving of the highest commendation, and I hope may recommend them to favour. Major-General Douglas has especially reported the obligations he is under to Captains Chads and Deacon, in the service of the 2d leeward division. Lieutenant Sandilands, of the flag ship, accompanied me as an aid-de-camp, and assisted me with such intelligence and activity as I hope may recommend him to the lords commissioners of the admiralty.

"Lieutenant-Colonel Starck conducted the service entrusted to him with intelligence and gallantry.

"Lieutenant-Colonel Farquarson displayed throughout the service a zeal and attention to the discipline of the 25th regiment which was proved by the usual efficiency and good conduct of that corps under his command.

"Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart, York chasseurs, is reported to me by Major-General Douglas as having distinguished himself during

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the absence of Major-General Douglas with the line. Lieutenant-Colonel Berkeley, deputy adjutant-general, has conducted that department with zeal and ability, and has rendered me essential assistance. I am particularly indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Popham, and the officers of the quarter-master general's department. Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, assistant quarter-master-general, fitted up and conducted the mortar boats, which would have been of great use, had an opportunity of employing them presented itself. The medical arrangements were conducted by Dr. Ferguson, inspector of hospitals, in a manner that might be expected from his zeal, knowledge, and experience; and I have every reason to be satisfied with Mr. Bullock, commissary-general, and the officers of his department.

"I must not omit to mention to your lordship, the zeal and intelligence of the officers of the royal artillery and engineers. I received every assistance from the intelligence and activity of the officers of my personal staff.

"I have the honour to transmit herewith returns of the killed, wounded, and missing of the troops under my command, which, I am happy to say, are inconsiderable.

"When it is considered that this beautiful and extensive colony, with a population of 110,000 souls, with forts and an armed force numerically greater than ours; when it is known that every sanguinary measure had been devised, and that the worst scenes of the revolution were to be recommenced; that the 15th of August, the birth-day of Buonaparte, was to have been solemnized by the execution of the royalists already condemned to death, it is a subject of congratulation to see Guadaloupe completely shielded from Jacobin fury in two days, and without the loss of many lives.

"Thus, my lords, the flag of the most unprovoked rebellion, under which the slaves had been called to arms, and many were wrought up to such a pitch of sanguinary frenzy, threatening the immediate destruction of the colony, has disappeared from the American archipelago; while the colonies faithful to His most Christian Majesty, are secured to his dominions by British garrisons. I cannot avoid on this occasion expressing my sense of the honourable, firm, and wise conduct of Admiral Comte de Vaugiraud, governor-general of Martinico, who had afforded me every information and assistance in his power against the common enemy.

"This dispatch will be delivered to you by Captain Leith Hay, my aid-de-camp and military secretary, who was on my staff the whole peninsular war; he will be enabled to give any information which you may be pleased to require. I beg leave to recommend him to your lordship's protection.

"I have the honour to be, &c.
"James Leith, Commander of the Forces."

Courier, September 19th, 1815, London Gazette.

Rear-Admiral Durham's letter, relative to the capture of Guadaloupe, contains some additional information, and is therefore given.

"Sir, "Venerable, Saints, August 15th, 1815.

"The lords commissioners of the admiralty being aware of the projected expedition against Guadaloupe, so soon as the commander-in-chief of the forces, Sir J. Leith, had assembled a force at this rendezvous sufficient to ensure a prompt and decided reduction of that island; the last division of the troops having arrived on the 7th instant; the island having been reconnoitred by the commander-in-chief of the forces and myself, aided by that distinguished and indefatigable engineer, Sir Charles Shipley; the places of debarkation having been determined upon; all overtures by the enemy having been rejected with scorn; and the rainy and hurricane season having set in, not a moment was to be lost.

"I beg you will be pleased to inform their lordships that I sailed on the 8th instant, having on board the 15th regiment, in company with the vessels of war and troop ships as per margin[1], fifty-three sail of transports and hired vessels, with 5000 men, a corps of artillery, and the usual appendages to the army, and proceeded to the weathermost landing place, Sainte Sauveur, [it had been proposed to have landed in three divisions at the same time, but the want of boats put that out of our power,] where, from the admirable position taken up by Lieutenant G. Tupman, acting captain of the Chanticleer, who swept the beach of the few troops that made their appearance, and the troops being covered by the Fairy and Espeigle, the debarkation was soon effected.

"We then dropped down to the next landing place, Grand Anse, where we found a large body of troops, and a battery, commanded by the Comte de Linois and General Boyer. I ordered Captain Baker, of the Fairy, Captain Chads, of the Columbia, and Captain Fleming, of the Barbadoes, to cover the landing of the troops; and from their well-directed fire the battery was soon silenced, and the enemy drove back to a respectable distance. Two thousand men were then landed, under the command of their gallant commander-in-chief, without the loss of a man. It being now dark and late, and the boats not yet returned, I postponed the third landing until the following morning, when it was accomplished with equal success on the lee part of the island near Baillif, under cover of the Columbia, Chanticleer, and Muros, in the face of a very large force, who retreated to the heights, and there capitulated on the morning of the 10th instant. A few ships and the floating property that remained were immediately taken possession of.

Gazette, Admiralty Office, September 18th, 1815.

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[1] Dasher, Fairy, Espeigle, Columbia, Barbadoes, Muros, Chanticleer, and Fox and Niobe troop-ships.

" It may be presumption in me to risk an opinion respecting the conduct of the army after they were on shore, but I trust, having witnessed the gallant manner in which they immediately advanced and drove back the enemy, as well as the general plan of attack, I may be permitted to express my admiration.

" The commander-in-chief of the forces, Sir J. Leith, having frequently of late honoured me with his company on board the Venerable, I should not do justice to my feelings were I not to express to their lordships how much the country is indebted to his zeal, ability, and indefatigable exertions in forwarding the King's service. I need not state to their lordships the great exertions and fatigues which the officers, seamen, and marines of this small squadron, have experienced in collecting, embarking, and disembarking troops, &c. &c.; but I can assure their lordships, that every man most cheerfully exerted himself to his utmost, and I beg leave to recommend them to their lordships notice. The captains employed on this service are all commanders.

" I feel very much indebted to his excellency the Comte de Vaugirand, for the assistance he rendered the service in sending the two corvettes and a schooner, as per margin [1], with troops from Martinico.

" I trust I shall not be doing an injustice to the squadron, by particularly expressing my gratitude to the few officers of the Venerable, who have so long followed my fortune, and supported me with their most active exertions in forwarding the service at all times, particularly Lieutenant Parr, who has done the duty of first lieutenant ever since I have been in this country. This dispatch will be delivered by my flag, Lieutenant Francis Wemyss, an intelligent and zealous officer, who will give their lordships any further particulars; and I beg leave to recommend him to their lordships' protection. " I have the honour to be, &c.

" P. C. Durham, Rear-Admiral,
" To J. W. Croker, Esq." Commander-in-Chief."

Conditions demanded by his Excellency Rear-Admiral Count de Linois, Governor-General of Guadaloupe, and the Adjutant-General Boyer, second in command in that Colony, addressed to his Excellency Sir James Leith, commanding in chief the British Troops.

" Art. 1. The governor, the second in command, and all the French troops of the line, shall be sent to France as prisoners of war, as well as the persons composing the military administration.

" Answer. The Count de Linois and Baron Boyer de Peyreleau, the French troops of the line, with the military administration,

Courier, September 19th, 1815.

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[1] French vessels, Acteon, Diligent, and Le Messager schooner.

shall be sent to France to the Duke of Wellington, as prisoners of war, according to the tenor of the proclamation of Sir J. Leith.

"2. The officers shall keep their swords and all the military their baggage.

"Answer. Refused, with the exception of the baggage belonging personally to the military.

"3. All the national guards of the colony shall be allowed peaceably to remain at their homes.

"Answer. The militia, which have already withdrawn to their habitations, shall be protected as well as their respective property; but such as are still in arms shall be treated as prisoners of war, and immediately sent away.

"4. No individual of Guadaloupe and its dependencies shall be molested for his past political opinions or acts, and shall be placed under the protection of His Britannic Majesty.

"Answer. No one shall be molested by the British government, on account of his political opinions or conduct to the present moment.

"5. The laws of the colony and private property shall be respected, and placed under the safeguard of His Britannic Majesty.

"Answer. Granted. As far as respects the laws and private property on shore. (Signed) "JAMES LEITH."

"Accepted the conditions proposed by his excellency Sir J. Leith, the 10th of August, 1815. (Signed) "LE COMTE DE LINOIS.
"BOYER DE PEYRELEAU."

Conditions demanded by his Excellency Sir J. Leith, &c. &c.

"Art. 1. All the forts, redoubts, and all other places furnished with artillery in the colony, shall be delivered up immediately to His Britannic Majesty's troops.

"2. All the eagles, tri-coloured flags, the public treasure, archives, plans, every thing which appertains to the administration, civil and military, the magazines of every description, arms of all kind, shall be immediately given up, as well as all other public property, to commissaries named by the general-in-chief.

"3. All persons under arms, who are comprised under these stipulations, shall march from their respective posts at three o'clock this afternoon, to be removed to their places of destination, having first surrendered their arms.

(Signed) "JAMES LEITH."

"Accepted the three above articles.

(Signed) "LE COMTE DE LINOIS.
"BOYER DE PEYRELEAU."

Courier, September 19th, 1815.

During the whole of the operations on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of August, the English had sixteen killed and fifty-one wounded.

In forty-eight hours after the disembarkation, the British ensign was displayed on Morne Houel, the forts occupied by his Majesty's troops, and the French garrison marched into Fort Matilda as prisoners at war. The immediate restoration of the different situations which the royalists had possessed previous to the insurrection, the organization of a militia, the establishment of a police, and vigorous measures to secure and bring to justice the bands of revolutionary coloured people who occupied the woods and committed depredations, were the first objects of the commander of the forces, who removed his head-quarters to that island. The privy council, as a mark of their esteem, voted £2000 for the purchase of a sword for him, and the King of France conferred upon him the grand cordon of the order of Military Merit.

The brigands at Guadaloupe still continued their attacks upon the British troops. The latter end of August they made a desperate sortie from the woods, and killed eighteen grenadiers of the 6th West India regiment. A number of arrests, however, took place the next day at Point-à-Petre, from whence it is said they had derived supplies, and Colonel Brown, with a considerable force, was sent in pursuit of them. Three hundred and fifty-five were taken and immediately shipped off for America.

The British government established a colony on Crab Island. Proclamations were issued at Antigua and Barbadoes, offering lands to persons inclined to settle on that island.

Sir James Leith issued a proclamation, declaring himself commander-in-chief for the time being of the island of Guadaloupe.

Upon the 10th of August the King of Spain issued a royal schedule for the encouragement of the industry and agriculture of Porto Rico. The principle articles of this decree are the following: —

" Art. 26. His Catholic Majesty permits, for the space of fifteen years, reckoning from the date of the present regulation, that ships belonging to the inhabitants of the island of Porto Rico, and to his subjects in Spain, which may undertake voyages to it, sailing directly with their cargoes from foreign ports to where His Catholic Majesty has resident consuls, may return likewise directly to them with articles the growth and produce of the same islands (excepting money, the export of which is absolutely prohibited), with the indispensable obligation, however, that the said consuls of His Catholic Majesty make out a particular register of every thing shipped, which, being given to the captain or master of the vessel closed and sealed, is to be presented to the royal administration of Porto Rico; and under

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Memoirs of Sir James Leith, G. C. B., 1818, p. 157.

Courier, September 26th, October 10th, 31st; November 25th, from Antigua Register.

the condition likewise, of paying three per cent. on the entrance of goods and productions which shall be imported, and the same sum on the exportation of products which shall return to any other foreign ports without touching at any one of those privileged in Spain for the India trade."

In article 3. it is ordained, that "merchandize and produce, the growth of Spain, which may be introduced into the said island, and which it may not be possible to consume in it, may be taken away and exported to other privileged ports of the Indies (paying in them that which must have been paid in Spain); but foreign merchandize shall not."

The following details relative to the fire at Port Royal are taken from the Jamaica Royal Gazette of July the 15th.

"The fire broke out at half past one o'clock on Thursday afternoon, in a Negro yard in Cannon Street, and was occasioned by a Negro woman's making a fire in an improper place. It quickly communicated to the adjoining buildings, and by two o'clock the principal street became a volume of fire and smoke; from thence it spread to the whole of the streets and lanes towards the harbour, the wharfs, and the naval hospital, Mr. M‘Kowan's house and wharf, and all adjoining, to within a few houses of the officers' quarters on the parade. The fire having communicated to Mrs. Whittaker's house, towards the west corner of the parade, it was suggested to pull down the houses opposite, so as to open a passage between those on fire to those which it had not yet reached, which, being effected by very great exertions, was the means of preventing the flames from continuing their fatal effects along the row of houses on the parade, leading to the artillery hospital, which were thus preserved. The dock-yard was saved by extraordinary exertions. The fire was not completely got under until early yesterday morning, and of ill-fated Port Royal, all that now remains, besides the dock-yard, is Fort Charles, the artillery barracks and hospital, the church, the street in which Mr. P. Duffus's house is situated, the street at the back of it in which Mr. Henry Beer's liquor-store is, and also from about fourteen to sixteen houses on the parade, commencing from Mrs. Clarke's old lodging-house, and running each way to about six or seven houses.

"Several lives were lost. During the fire some ruffians were busily employed in plundering, some of whom were taken and lodged in the guard-house.

"Subscriptions were opened at Kingston for the relief of the sufferers."

Upon the 31st of October the house of assembly of Jamaica passed nine resolutions.

Courier, September 18th, from Jamaica Gazette.

"1. They resolve, that they ought of right to enjoy, so long as their knights and burgesses are not called to sit in parliament, a distinct and entire civil government of the like powers as are established in the British government.

"2. They resolve, that their government can, and of right ought to do all such acts and matters of legislation, respecting the internal government of the island, as the imperial parliament can in Great Britain.

"3. They resolve, that it is their peculiar privilege to grant all aids and impose all taxes on the inhabitants, other than such duties as are mere regulations of trade.

"4. They resolve, that they ought not to be bound by laws or touched by subsidies imposed without their assent.

"5. They resolve, that they acknowledge the power of parliament to make laws for the general benefit of the empire, and declare they are not disposed captiously to raise difficulties about the exact limits of its power.

"6. They resolve, that they are grieved and touched by being deprived of the benefit of cross-examining the evidence exhibited by British creditors in our (their) courts, and by an extension of the powers of the court of admiralty.

"7. They resolve, that it has been the received opinion, that many of these laws originated from causes which existed in the colonies that formerly were subject to Great Britain in North America; but it was hoped that laws, so subversive of constitutional principles, would not be further drawn into precedent, and especially that it would never be proposed to offer greater violence to the constitutional rights of this colony.

"8. They resolve, that they have seen with surprize and concern, the draft for the bill, 'For effectually preventing the unlawful importation of slaves, and the holding free persons in slavery, in the British colonies,' which assumes a right of legislation within the island, upon a subject of mere municipal regulation and internal police, exercises a power over the estates and property of the inhabitants, imposes the most grievous penalties and forfeitures, to be inflicted at the will of a single officer, without trial by jury, and levies fees and gratuities, to the use of the said officer and others, on the inhabitants, not given or consented to by their representatives in general assembly; by which the right of internal legislation is infringed, and the pledge given to the colonies by the statute of the 18 Geo. III. cap. 12. is violated.

"9. Resolved, that the laws for abolishing the slave-trade by the British parliament, although injurious to the property of a great proportion of the inhabitants, have been acquiesced in with good faith, and no attempts have ever been made in this island to evade

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Parliamentary Papers, Colonial Journal, No. 1. p. 212.

the said laws or any of them; and this house doth pledge itself forthwith to enter into an investigation of the facts, and to establish, by testimony the most irrefragible, that no illicit trade in slaves has been carried on in this island, and that all the allegations made in the preamble, or assumed by the enactments of the said bill, as printed, of an illegal commerce in African or other slaves having been carried on in Jamaica, are utterly unfounded."

In a letter from Kingston, dated October the 28th, are the following particulars of a hurricane at Jamaica: —

" On Thursday morning the weather put on a very threatening aspect, and the whole day it continued drizzling, with occasionally smart showers of rain. About one o'clock on Wednesday morning, the wind began to blow with great strength from the north, but changed in about an hour to the S.E., from which quarter it continued to blow during the remainder of that day with great violence, accompanied by heavy rain, which continued without intermission the whole of Wednesday night and until Thursday at noon, when it somewhat abated, the wind having again shifted to the north on Wednesday night, where it continued steady until the end of the storm early yesterday morning. In strength and continuation this was one of the severest storms we ever witnessed, and, we are sorry to say, had done very considerable mischief to the barrack wall, and other buildings, in this town. The roads and pastures in the vicinity are covered with branches of trees which have been torn off, and many large trees have also been torn up by the roots. Several vessels were lost, and their crews, and several other vessels were damaged."

The number of slaves in Jamaica was reported to be 313,814.

In consequence of information given to the solicitor-general of St. Christopher's, a Mr. Higgins was prosecuted for having imported a slave from the island of St. Bartholomew. The fact of the illegal importation was not only clearly established, but even admitted by the counsel for the prisoner; yet the jury brought in a verdict of acquittal with little or no hesitation. The only defence attempted to be set up was one which, if satisfactorily established, might perhaps have furnished grounds for an application, after conviction, for the interposition of the royal mercy, but was manifestly no legal answer to the charge. For this defence consisted, not in an attempt to disprove the fact of purchasing the slave, but in an endeavour to shew that it was done from motives of humanity, and at the express request of the boy.

This does not appear to have been the case, and the circumstance of a very material witness from St. Bartholomew's being

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Courier, December 18th, 1815.
Defence of the Bill for the Registration of Slaves, Appendix.
African Institution, 10th Report, p. 21.

present at the trial, and not being examined on the part of the prisoner, warrants the belief that the boy's uniform denial of having solicited Higgins, at the sale, to purchase him, was true. Had it been otherwise, that witness could have fully proved its falsity, as both by the admission of the boy and of the counsel for the prisoner, he was present during the whole time of the sale.

The prosecutor in this case having been threatened, in the event of an acquittal, with proceedings against him for the endeavours thus ineffectually made to check the illicit traffic in slaves, which he has reason to believe is yet carried on, by obtaining a conviction under the 51 Geo. III., and thinking that this threat which was thrown out by the counsel for Mr. Higgins, was one which was intended to be enforced, felt himself reduced to the necessity of soliciting protection of Sir J. Leith, the governor. In his letter to Sir James, after stating the circumstances just related, he observes, "*This is the result of an effort to support the enactments of the British parliament, and such the reward which every man, who has the boldness and independence to discharge his duty conscientiously, has to expect.*"

Fifty North American Indians, who had served in the British fleet during the war with America, were landed at Trinidad; they had chosen that island for their future residence, where, in pursuance of the promise originally held out to them, they were to receive grants of land, and be taught the cultivation of the sugar-cane and the manufacture of sugar.

By an order in council, dated August 17th, 1815, a poll-tax of two dollars on each slave was imposed, in his Majesty's name, on the British subjects in Trinidad.

"From the time the Register Bill passed, parliament has ceased to sanction, expressly or impliedly, directly or indirectly, the origination of slavery from any source extrinsic to the colonies themselves, or by any means that it can be difficult for the owner to verify. The state can now lawfully attach upon new individuals by birth alone, and that is a title which a well-regulated public register easily might, and most clearly ought to attest. How, then, can it be hereafter reconciled with those constitutional boundaries which are prescribed to the power of the assemblies, that all men of a certain complexion, when found within the King's dominions in the West Indies, shall be presumed in law to be slaves? This is a question of infinite importance to the security of the abolition itself, which well deserves, and cannot too soon obtain the serious consideration of parliament."

The author has made numerous extracts from the same work which contains the preceding one, by James Stephen, Esq. on

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African Institution, 10th Report, p. 23.
Courier, October 16th, 1815.
Jordan's Examination of the Slave Registry Bill, p. 72.
Stephen on West Indian Slavery, p. 373.

Colonial Slavery; and if the reader is desirous to be more fully acquainted with the cruel and opprobrious singularity of the West Indian oppression, he is referred with the greatest confidence to that book.

It would be well for a refractory slave if the difference between contumacious behaviour and open rebellion were mercifully defined; for, in Jamaica, " Lewis Chamont and Henry, slaves to William Ballon, for rebellious behaviour, in peremptorily *refusing to obey their master's commands*," were sentenced to be sent to the workhouse slave-chain, and to be punished with seven times thirty-nine lashes with the cart-whip, to be inflicted monthly; i.e. as soon as the wounds were healed, they were to be renewed.

In the Spanish colonies, the enslaved Negro may compel his master to accept of his value, when tendered, as the price of his freedom; when rich enough to pay a sixth part of his appreciation, he may redeem for his own use one day in the week, by employing which industriously he will of course be much sooner enabled to buy out a second day, and may redeem the remainder of his time with a continually accelerated progress.

The virtues of industry and foresight are thus encouraged, and the inconveniences incident to a sudden transition from total slavery to full freedom avoided.

Upon the 31st of August and the 1st of September, the West India Islands were visited by a hurricane. About thirty sail were driven on shore at St. Bartholomew's; fourteen were totally lost. The gale did not reach Barbadoes.

Upon the 20th of September, a second hurricane unroofed and blew down about half the houses on Turk's Island, and destroyed about 400,000 bushels of salt. Several vessels were wrecked. One American vessel lost twenty-two of her crew and passengers.

In September, the King of the Netherlands appointed Admiral Kikkert governor-general of Curaçoa and its dependencies.

The following paragraph is copied from the Courier of the 5th of November; it should seem to be at variance with our treaty with the King of the Netherlands:—

" The small Dutch island of St. Martin, in the West Indies, is to have the establishment of a British general officer and staff in future; and Major-General Douglas has been ordered to assume the command at that station."

Upon the 20th of November, the treaties of peace concluded between His Britannic Majesty and his allies, and the King of France, were signed at Paris.

They were signed by Lord Viscount Castlereagh and the Duke of Wellington, on the part of His Britannic Majesty, and by the Duc de Richelieu, on the part of His most Christian Majesty.

Stephen on West Indian Slavery, pp. 307. 382.
Courier, October 5th, 15th, November 9th, 15th, 23d, 1815.

The following are the only articles which relate to the West Indies:—

"Art. 11. The treaty of Paris of the 30th of May, 1814, and the final act of the congress of Vienna of the 9th of June, 1815, are confirmed, and shall be maintained in all such of their enactments which shall not have been modified by the articles of the present treaty.

Additional Article.

"The high contracting powers, sincerely desiring to give effect to the measures on which they deliberated at the congress of Vienna, relative to the complete and universal abolition of the slave trade, and having each in their respective dominions prohibited, without restriction, their colonies and subjects from taking any part whatever in this traffic, engage to renew conjointly their efforts, with the view of securing final success to those principles which they proclaimed in the declaration of the 4th of February, 1815, and of concerting, without loss of time, through their ministers at the courts of London and of Paris, the most effectual measures for the entire and definitive abolition of a commerce so odious, and so strongly condemned by the laws of religion and of nature.

"The present additional article shall have the same force and effect as if it were inserted, word for word, in the treaty signed this day. It shall be included in the ratification of the said treaty."

In the "convention concluded in conformity to the ninth article of the principal treaty relative to the examination and liquidation of the claims of the subjects of His Britannic Majesty against the government of France," are the following articles:—

"Art. 9. A capital, producing an interest of 3,500,000 francs, commencing from the 22d of March, 1816, shall be inscribed as a fund of guarantee in the great book of the public debt of France, in the name of two or four commissioners, the one half English, and the other half French, chosen by their respective governments. These commissioners shall receive the said interest from the 22d of March, 1816, every six months; they shall hold it in deposit, without having the power of negociating it; and they shall further be bound to place the amount of it in the public funds, and to receive the accumulated and compound interest of the same for the profit of the creditors. In case the 3,500,000 francs of interest shall be insufficient, there shall be delivered to the said commissioners inscriptions for larger sums, until their amount shall be equal to what may be necessary to pay all the debts mentioned in the present act. These additional inscriptions, if there shall be any, shall be delivered, bearing interest from the same period as the 3,500,000 francs above stipulated, and shall be administered by the commissioners according to the same principles, so that the claims

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Courier, November 28th, 1815.

which shall remain to be paid shall be paid with the same proportion of accumulated and compound interest as if the fund of guarantee had been from the first sufficient: and as soon as all the payments due to the creditors shall have been made, the surplus of the interest fund not employed, with the proportion of accumulated and compound interest which shall belong thereto, shall, if there be any, be given up to the disposal of the French government.

" 12. A further delay shall be allowed, after the signature of the present convention, to the subjects of His Britannic Majesty who shall have claims upon the French government for the matters specified in the present act, in order that they may bring forward their claims and produce their titles.

" This delay shall be extended to three months for the creditors residing in Europe, six months for such as are in the western colonies, and twelve months for such as are resident in the East Indies, or in other countries equally distant. After the expiration of these periods, the said subjects of His Britannic Majesty shall no longer have the benefit of the present liquidation.

" 16. When the 3,500,000 francs of interest, mentioned in the 9th article, shall have been inscribed in the name of the commissioners, who are to hold that sum in deposit, and on the first demand which shall be thereafter made by the French government, His Britannic Majesty shall give the necessary orders to carry into execution the restoration of the French colonies, as stipulated by the treaty of Paris of the 30th of May, 1814, comprehending Martinico and Gaudaloupe, which have been since occupied by the British force.

" The inscription above mentioned shall be made before the first of January next, at the latest.

" 17. The prisoners of war, officers and soldiers, both naval and military, or of any other description, taken during the hostilities which have lately ceased, shall on both sides be immediately restored to their respective countries, under the same conditions which are specified in the convention of the 23d April, 1814, and in the treaty of the 30th May of the same year; and the British government renounces all claim to any sums or indemnities whatsoever which might belong to it from the surplus arising from the maintenance of the said prisoners of war, subject nevertheless to the condition specified in the 4th additional article in the treaty of Paris of the 30th of May, 1814.

" Done at Paris, the 20th Day of November, 1815.
(L.S.) " CASTLEREAGH. (L.S.) " RICHELIEU."
(L.S.) " WELLINGTON."

Upon the 6th of October, the buildings of the victualling department at English Harbour, Antigua, were set on fire by lightning. From the great quantity of rum that was in them, the fire burnt with

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Courier, December 20th, 1815.

such fury as to baffle every effort to extinguish it. By great exertions the dock-yard was saved.

The following Statistical Reports are extracted from the Papers laid before the House of Commons in 1815.

"Barbadoes is divided into eleven parishes, in each of which there is a resident rector who draws £300 a year from the colonial treasury, independent of his glebe and surplice fees. Several of the clergy keep schools, and some of these are very respectable.

"The schools in Bridge Town for the children of colour are increasing in number.

"The society for the propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts, who are the trustees, by the will of the founder, to Codrington college, &c., have established a provision for two school mistresses, one on each plantation, for the purpose of instructing all the young Negroes in reading, and in the catechism of the church of England. These children are regularly baptised, and, in compliance with the wish of the society, to render more effectual this method of promoting the religious improvement of their Negroes, are catechised weekly by one of the masters of the college; they are likewise obliged to attend the college chapel on Sundays.

"The funds of the college are in a flourishing state.

"The Jews in the island are all white.

"*Population of the Island of Curaçoa.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
White - -	1246	1535	2781
Free coloured	777	1384	2161
Free black	753	1117	1872
Slaves coloured	244	376	620
Slaves black	2699	2637	5336
	5721	7049	12,770

"The slaves and free people of colour are all christened, and profess, almost without exception, the Roman Catholic religion; they are allowed a free exercise of their religious duties, but there is no existing law on the subject. Slaves are taught different trades, but it is not the custom of the country to serve a regular apprenticeship.

"The island contains four divisions, but there are no parishes. There is no doubt that the births among the slaves far exceed the deaths.

"*Surinam.*—This colony, from its intersections by rivers and creeks, and the distances from one plantation to another, with the circumstances of tides, want of roads, bridges, &c., renders it impracticable to divide it into parishes.

Courier, November 7th, December 30th, 1815, from Official Papers laid before the House of Commons.

"There is only one clergyman of the church of England resident in the colony, with a colonial salary of 3500 guilders, and one chapel. He is also garrison chaplain.

"Upon applications being made to the heads of the various persuasions, it has been ascertained, that no church registers of any description have been kept; but the best information obtained from those gentlemen is as follows:—

"The Rev. J. P. Van Esch, minister of the Dutch reformed church, states his congregation to be 1200; the major part of whom are the white inhabitants; few free people of colour or slaves frequenting his church. That their different habitations are so distant the one from the other, owing to the locality of the country, that it is impossible for him to give at present a more accurate statement. He receives 17,000 f. per annum from the colony, and 6000 f. from the sovereign.

"The Rev. J. A. Koops, minister of the Lutheran church, states his congregation at 450 or 500; is paid by his congregation at the rate of 5000 f. per annum, and does not receive any salary.

"The Rev. — Schink, pastor of the Roman Catholic church, states his congregation at 291; does not receive any salary from the colony, and is paid by his congregation at the rate of 12,000 f. per annum.

"The Moravian brethren are eight in number, who all follow some trade. Their congregation in Paramaribo is as follows:—Negro slaves, 326, coloured slaves, 26; Negro free people, 85, coloured free people, 20; total, 450. They entirely maintain themselves, and do not receive any allowance from the colony.

"The German Jew synagogue is under the directions of regents; and their total congregation is stated by them:—Whites, 547; coloured people, 16; total, 563.

"The Portuguese Jew synagogue is also under the directions of the regents; and their congregations:—Whites, 745; coloured people, 79; total, 824.

"*Population Return.*

White inhabitants with their families -	2029	
Their slaves of all descriptions - -		7115
Free coloured and black, with their families	3075	
Their slaves - - - - -		2599
Total number slaves of plantation or residence		42,223
	5104	51,937
	——	5,104
Total number of souls		57,041

Courier, December 30th, 1815, from Papers laid before the House of Commons.

"At Santa Cruz the revenues of the establishment of the Moravian church were more than equal for its support. A third church was begun to be built, out of their surplus funds, in the centre of the island; those at Christianstadt and Frederickstadt not being sufficiently capacious for their congregations.

"The exemplary conduct of the Moravian missionaries, coupled with their indefatigable industry and most zealous exercise of all religious duties, has for many years obtained for them the especial protection and encouragement of the local government of Santa Cruz. Both their precepts and their unassuming manners are admirably calculated to benefit that unfortunate class of persons of which their congregations are principally composed; and such is the power they possess over the minds of the Negroes, that when, on serious occasions, they exclude them for a time from their congregations, the Negro considers it by far a more severe punishment than any other that can be inflicted."

1816.

Extracts from Dispatches addressed to Earl Bathurst, by Officers administering the Governments of ceded Colonies, at the Periods of their Cession.

From Major-General Bonham.

"Barbadoes, 9th March, 1816.

"In obedience to the warrant of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the colony of Surinam was restored to his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, on the 26th February, on which day I surrendered the same to Major-General de Panhuys, who was appointed governor."

Curaçoa. — *From Major-General Conteur.*

"At Sea, his Majesty the King of the Netherland's Ship,
Prince of Orange, 6th March, 1816.

"The British garrison of Curaçoa embarked on board this ship early on the 4th instant, and at about nine o'clock the change of flag took place."

Guadaloupe. — Sir James Leith, in a dispatch from Barbadoes, dated 23d August, 1816, transmitted an address from the privy council of Guadaloupe to the Prince Regent. By a preceding letter it appears he was at Guadaloupe on the 13th of July. The address has no date; it appears therefore the cession took place between the 13th of July and 23d of August, 1816.

MS. Records in the Colonial Office, extracted for this work, by permission of W. Horton, Esq. Under Secretary of State, &c. &c.

The following is an extract from the address:—

"Les membres du conseil privé de sa Majesté à Guadaloupe, supplient votre Altesse Royale de leur permettre de mettre à ses pieds le tribut de leur reconnoissance pour la genereuse protection qu'elle a daigné leur accorder.

"Cette colonie allait perir victime d'une rebellion funeste; les armes, de sa Majesté Brittannique, dirigée par Sir James Leith, l'ont preservé d'une destruction totale, et les vertus de ce respectable chef l'ont fait jouir d'une prosperité sans bornes pendant la durée de son administration. . . . . . . Les habitans de Guadaloupe, ... se souviendront toujours avec le sentiment de la plus vive reconnoissance que dans le cours de tant d'evenemens désastreux qui ont si long-tems désolé le monde, plusieurs fois secourus par sa Majesté Brittannique, ils ont du à sa noble protection, et à sa domination douce et bienfaisante, les moments de bonheur et de prosperité dont ils ont joui."

CONCLUSION.

The history of the West Indies presents little more than a melancholy series of calamities and crimes. The islands have been laid waste by hurricanes and visited by pestilence; but the sufferings which have arisen from natural causes are few and trifling in comparison with those which moral and political circumstances have produced. When the horrors of the conquest were over, the Caribs extirpated, and the Buccaneers suppress, these colonies became the seat of war whenever hostilities occurred between the great European powers; and, in addition to this evil, a system of slavery took root there, the mitigation and gradual removal of which is one of the most difficult duties that any legislature has ever had to perform.

Performed, however, that duty will be by the British government. The beginning has been well made. The episcopal establishment, though late, could never have been formed at a more auspicious time. Evil opinions, and the ill practices which are their result, will give way as the influence of true and reasonable religion extends. The event is in the hands of Providence, and may be looked for hopefully, in the assurance that every thing will be done by the British legislature deliberately and firmly, upon the fullest information, and with the best intentions.

MS. Records in the Colonial Office, extracted for this work, by permission of W. Horton, Esq. Under Secretary of State, &c. &c.

APPENDIX.

"Toussaint L'Ouverture, General-in-Chief of the army of St. Domingo, to all the civil and military officers of the island.

"CITIZENS,

"After putting an end to the war in the south, our first duty has been to return thanks to the Almighty, which we have done with a zeal becoming so great a blessing. Now, citizens, it is necessary to consecrate all our moments to the prosperity of St. Domingo, to the public tranquillity, and, consequently, to the welfare of our fellow-citizens.

"But to attain this end in an effectual manner, all the civil and military officers must make it their business, every one in their respective departments, to perform the duties of their offices with devotion and attachment to the public welfare.

"You will easily conceive, citizens, that agriculture is the support of government, since it is the foundation of commerce and wealth, the source of arts and industry; it keeps every body employed, as being the mechanism of all trades; and from the moment that every individual becomes useful, it creates public tranquillity; disturbances disappear together with idleness, by which they are commonly generated, and every one peaceably enjoys the fruits of his industry.

"Officers, civil and military, this is what you must aim at; such is the plan to be adopted, which I prescribe to you; and I declare, in the most peremptory manner, that it shall be enforced. My country demands this salutary step; I am bound to it by my office, and the security of our interests demands it imperiously.

"But in order to secure our liberties, which are indispensable to our happiness, every individual must be usefully employed, so as to contribute to the public good and the general tranquillity.

"Considering that the soldier, who has sacred duties to perform, as being the safeguard of the people, and in perpetual activity to execute the orders of his chief, either for maintaining interior tranquillity, or for fighting abroad the enemies of the country, is strictly subordinate to his superior officers; and as it is of great importance that overseers, drivers, and field Negroes, who, in like manner, have their superiors, should conduct themselves as officers, non commissioned officers, and soldiers, in whatever may concern them.

"Considering that when an officer, a non-commissioned officer, or a soldier, deviates from his duty, he is delivered over to a court-martial, to be tried and punished according to the laws of the republic, for in military service no rank is to be favoured when guilty; the overseers, drivers, and field Negroes, as subject to constant labour, and equally subordinate to their superiors, shall be punished in like manner, in case of failure in their respective duties.

"Whereas a soldier cannot leave his company, his battalion, or half brigade, and enter into another, without the severest punishment, unless provided with a permission in due form from his chief, field Negroes are forbidden to quit their respective plantations, without a lawful permission. This is by no means attended to, since they change their place of labour as they please, go to and fro, and pay not the least attention to agriculture, though the only means of furnishing sustenance to the military, their protectors; they even conceal themselves in towns, in villages, and mountains, where, allured by the enemies of good order, they live by plunder, and in a state of open hostility to society.

"Whereas, since the revolution, labourers of both sexes, then too young to be employed in the field, refuse to go to it now under pretext of freedom, spend their time in wandering about, and give a bad example to the other cultivators, while, on the other hand, the generals, officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, are in a state of constant activity to maintain the sacred rights of the people.

"And whereas my proclamation of the 25th Brumaire, of the 7th year, to the people of St. Domingo, was calculated to establish an uniform system of incessant and laborious industry, at the same time that it required from all the citizens indiscriminately the co-operation of cultivators, soldiers, and civil powers, as necessary for the restoration of St. Domingo; it being, therefore, my determination that the above-mentioned proclamation should be carried into full effect, and that the abuses now in practice amongst the labourers should be at an end from the publication of this present regulation, I do most peremptorily order as follows: —

"Art. 1. All overseers, drivers, and field Negroes, are bound to observe, with exactness, submission, and obedience, their duty in the same manner as soldiers.

"2. All overseers, drivers, and field labourers, who will not perform with assiduity the duties required of them, shall be arrested and punished as severely as soldiers deviating from their duty; after which punishment, if the offender be an overseer, he shall be enlisted in one of the regiments of the army of St. Domingo; if a driver, he shall be dismissed from his employment, and placed among the field Negroes, without ever being permitted to act as a driver again; and if a common labourer, he shall be punished with the same severity as a private soldier, according to his guilt.

"3. All field labourers, men and women, now in a state of idleness, living in towns, villages, and on other plantations than those to which they belong, with an intention to evade work, even those of both sexes, who have not been employed in field labour since the revolution, are required to return immediately to their respective plantations, if in the course of eight days from the promulgation of this present regulation, they shall not produce sufficient proof to the commanding officers in the places of their residence of their having some useful occupation or means of livelihood; but it is to be understood, that being a servant is not to be considered as an useful occupation; in consequence whereof those amongst the labourers who have quitted their plantations in order to hire themselves, shall return thereto under the personal responsibility of those with whom they live in that capacity. By the terms 'an useful occupation' is meant what enables a man to pay a contribution to the state.

"4. This measure, indispensable to the public welfare, positively prescribes to all those of either sex, that are not labourers, to produce the proofs of their having an occupation or profession sufficient to gain their livelihood, and that they can afford to pay a contribution to the republic; otherwise and in default thereof, all those who shall be found in contravention hereto, shall be instantly arrested, and, if they are found guilty, they shall be drafted into one of the regiments of the army; if not, they shall be sent to the field, and compelled to work. This measure, which is strictly enforced, will put a stop to the idle habit of wandering about, since it will oblige every one to be usefully employed.

"5. Parents are earnestly entreated to attend to their duty towards their children, which is to make them good citizens. For that purpose they must instruct them in good morals, in the Christian religion, and the fear of God. Above all, exclusive of this education, they must be brought up in some specific business or profession, to enable them not only to earn their living, but also to contribute to the expences of the government.

"6. All persons residing in towns and villages, who shall harbour labourers of either sex, all proprietors or tenants, who shall suffer on their plantations labourers belonging to other estates, without immediately making it known to the commandant of the district, or other military officers, in the places of their residence, shall pay a fine of two, three, or four hundred livres, according to the abilities of the delinquent; in case of repetition of the offence, they shall pay three times as much; if the fine cannot be levied, for want of effects, the offender shall be imprisoned for a month, and in case of repetition, for three months.

"7. The overseers and drivers of every plantation shall make it their business to inform the commanding officer of the district, in regard to the conduct of the labourers under their management, as well as of those who shall absent themselves from their plantations without a pass; and of those, who residing on the estates, shall refuse to work. They shall be forced to go to the labour of the field; and if they prove obstinate, they shall be arrested and carried before the military commandant, in order to suffer the punishment above prescribed, according to the exigence of the case.

"The military commandants who shall not inform the commandants of districts, and these the generals under whose orders they act, shall be severely punished at the discretion of the said generals.

"8. The generals commanding the departments shall henceforth be answerable to me for any neglect in the cultivation of their districts; and if when going through the several parishes and departments I shall perceive any marks of negligence, I shall proceed against those who have tolerated it.

"9. I forbid all military men whatsoever, under the responsibility of the commanding officers, to suffer any women to remain in the barracks, those excepted that are married to soldiers, as well as those who carry victuals to men confined to their quarters; but these shall not be allowed to remain any time. Plantation women are wholly excluded. The commanding officers shall answer for the execution of this article.

"10. The commandants in the towns, or the officers in the villages, shall not suffer the labourers or field Negroes to spend the decades in town; they shall also take care that they do not conceal themselves. Such officers as shall not punctually attend to this order shall be punished with six days' confinement for the first time, a month for the second, and shall be cashiered for the third offence. They shall give information to the commandant of the district of such labourers as are found in the towns during the decades, and of the persons at whose houses they were taken up, that the said persons may be condemned to pay the fine imposed by article 6. of this present regulation. The plantation people, who in such cases may be brought before the commandant of the district, shall be sent back to their plantations, after receiving the punishment as above directed by article 2., with a strong recommendation to the commanding officer of their quarter, that a watchful eye may be kept on them for the future.

" 11. All the municipal administrations of St. Domingo are requested to take the wisest measures, together with the commandants of towns and of the districts, to inform themselves whether those who call themselves domestics really are so, observing that plantation Negroes cannot be domestics; any person keeping them in that quality will be liable to pay the above-mentioned fine, as well as those who shall detain labourers of either sex for any kind of employment.

" 12. All commissaries of government in the municipalities will make it their duty to inform me of all the abuses respecting the execution of this regulation, and to give advice of the same to the generals of department.

" 13. I command all the generals of department, generals, and other principal officers in the districts, to attend to the execution of this regulation, for which they shall be personally responsible; and I flatter myself, that their zeal in assisting me to restore the public prosperity, will not be momentary, convinced, as they must be, that liberty cannot exist without industry.

" This present regulation shall be printed, read, published, and posted up wherever it is necessary, even on plantations, so that no one may pretend ignorance thereof. It shall likewise be sent to all the civil and military authorities, together with my proclamation of the 25th Brumaire above-mentioned, which for that purpose shall be reprinted, so that every one may conform strictly to the duties required of him.

" Given at head-quarters, Port Republican, Vendemiaire 20th, ninth year of the French republic, one and indivisible.

(Signed) " TOUSSAINT L'OUVERTURE,
General-in-Chief."

THE END.

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